Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE. MECHANIC ARTS. LITERATURE. NEWS, &c.

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Maine Farmer.

EZEKIEL HOLMES, } Editors.
S. L. BOARDMAN, }

Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

Cause of Potato Rot.

Although our potato fields in Maine, have, for a few years past, been comparatively free from the scourge, which at one time seemed to threaten utter annihilation of potatoes of every description, yet the disease is not wholly eradicated. It is lurking still in our midst, and may, if not carefully watched and circumvented, again spread and desolate our fields with all its former violence.

Almost every one will find in the fall, winter, or spring, a few potatoes which are infected with the rot. In these are the seeds of the mischief, and, unless carefully guarded against, will lead, should a concurrence of seasons and other requirements be united, to as wide a spread, and of course as much damage and loss, as ever has been during its greatest prevalence among us.

It may be very pertinently asked, what is this insidious disease, and how, and in what manner does it operate? A great many theories have been brought forward to explain the operation of this disease. Insects of almost every species—from the little animalculæ, requiring the microscope to see it, up to the larger and more tangible species of different genera, have had to bear the blame. The weather, in its various temperatures and phases, has been reproached as the main cause. Early, after its first appearance, the late Mr. Teschemaker, of Boston, broached the theory that the sole cause of the "potato rot" was the prevalence of a fungus which attacked first the leaf and stalk, and subsequently the bulb or tuber of the potato. His observations and experiments were continued, more or less interruptedly in the research in regard to the cause and prevention of the disease until his death.

After that, the insect theory came into vogue, and had its run. A Mr. Reed of Baltimore, went very minutely into the theory, and endeavored to prove that it was caused by animalculæ. He obtained a patent for his mode of destroying and preventing the rot, by destroying the animalculæ.

Subsequent to this, Dr. DeBarry and other botanists, of Germany, entered into very careful and minute researches in order to discover the true cause of this disease, and its course of operation.

From these researches and observations he has been led to what he considers a demonstrable fact, viz: that the true cause of this disease is the existence of a fungus which festers upon the potato as a congenial soil in which to flourish, and by its appropriating the juices of the stalk and tuber to its own sustenance, exhausts the potato of its proper fluid, and thereby destroys its vitality and completes its destruction.

This is coming back again on to the ground first occupied by Teschemaker, who, had he lived, would probably ere this have completed his observations and researches, and established the same facts, and given us the same deductions as Dr. DeBarry and his friends have. The observations and discoveries of DeBarry and his associates have been published in Germany, and we are indebted to Prof. S. W. Johnson, of Yale College, for an abstract of their work, which he has communicated to the *Country Gentleman*, and from which we make extracts in order to post up our readers as far as it can be briefly done.

Potatoes are one of the staple crops of Maine, and we ought to be up to the times in knowledge, both of their culture, and of their diseases. It is proved, says Prof. Johnson, "beyond all reasonable doubt, that the potato never rots without the fungus, and that it always rots with it.

Planting the fungus on a sound potato, develops the disease. Shielding the potato from the fungus prevents the disease. The rot starts where the fungus begins to grow. Each microscopic cell of the tuber becomes discolored or rotten, when, and only when the fungus issues its branches into it, or into its immediate neighborhood." But, says the farmer, who has only made slight observation in this matter, does not the rot show itself first on the leaves or stalks above ground? If it be a fungus, how do they get underground from the leaves to the tubers? This is all true, and the question is a natural one, and on this point Prof. Johnson quotes from the German experimenters. It is a fact that the blight of the leaf precedes the rot in the potato. "It is easy to see," he observes, with the unaided eye, that the fungus travels over the potato leaf *before* the blight. If the observer carefully regards one of the brown blight spots when the disease is spreading, he will see that at its borders, and extending over on the still green leaf, is a forest of tiny mould plants which cover the leaf with a greenish down. This is the potato fungus, the *Peronospora infestans*, as it is now botanically designated."

The manner of propagating the fungus, and its process of growth, is then explained. This is the same as other fungi. One mode is, by spores or seeds, so small as to require highly magnifying glasses to them, and which float in the air, and can and do penetrate the pores of plants, germinate, take root and grow them. It sends out branches called *mycelium*. This *mycelium*, although it contains no seeds or spores, nevertheless can be made to, and is instrumental in propagating fungus—in some manner, probably as a slip, or cutting of more perfect plants can be used to multiply the plants, instead of by its seeds. The latter mode is more slow, while the former, viz., by spores or seeds, is exceedingly and wonderfully rapid.

Hence, a few seeds or spores, may attack and blight a few leaves and stocks in a field, and but little notice be taken of it, but from these few diseased stalks, are raised myriads more of these spores, which, all at once, give evidence of their existence all over the field, as if done almost instantaneously. "Nothing," says Prof. J., "can explain the fact that a field which yesterday was green, and to all appearance healthy, to-day is black with blight, except by the almost magical increase of this parasite. Nothing else can enable us to comprehend how a part of a field—a streak across it—is blighted, while the rest is undamaged."

We have not the space to rehearse all the experiments of De Barry with the spores of this fungus. He applied them to the leaf and watched their rapid development by the microscope. He applied them to cut potatoes and produced the rot, and in short, he, by the use of them, could produce the rot in all its forms and phases by the application of the seeds, or by the *mycelium* of this fungus. He discovered, however, that "it was not necessary to apply the spores to a cut surface. The fungus, when it begin to grow, will penetrate the potato skin without difficulty. About a week is required for the disease, in this case, to become evident." He also found that the "spores which fall from the mature fungus that is on the leaves, are carried by rains down into the ground, and reach the tubers, provided the latter don't lie too deep, and thus infect them. If the soil of a field that is brown from blight be examined microscopically, there is no difficulty in find spores among the particles of the earth."

Further experiments proved three important points: 1st. The spores or seeds of the fungus cannot survive the winter, either on the dry potato top or the soil. 2d. This particular fungus is not developed from the spores of any other fungus. 3d. That this fungus (*Peronospora*) winters in the potato in the condition of *mycelium*, (which we just now observed, could propagate or produce the fungus as do slips or cuttings of perfect plants,) and is thus carried into the field in the seed potatoes. From this *mycelium*, perfect fungi are produced, and these bear spores which soon spread all around, penetrating the shoots, following them up in their extension and thus pass above the soil, and thus, in the short time of one season, warmth and moisture aiding, they infest whole fields and produce great destruction, as in times past, many of our farmers have found to their no small cost. This being the cause and the progress of the disease, the next question must be—what will prevent it? Many things will suggest themselves to the farmer. The most obvious one is this: Burn up all potatoes infected. Allow not a particle of them to be around, but destroy in the most thorough manner every particle of the *mycelium* from which such large crops of the fungus will, in a short time spring up. Some people give infected potatoes to their cattle. Better burn them up.

Ayrshire Stock.

We have received a "Catalogue of Ayrshire Cattle, belonging to H. H. Peters, Southborough, Mass.," which comprises the pedigrees of fifteen bulls, and seventy cows and heifers, forming, without doubt, the largest and most valuable herd of Ayrshires in this country, all of which have been imported or bred by Mr. Peters, at great expense, and with much care.

Prefacing his catalogue, Mr. Peters gives some account of his experience with native cows as milkers, and also his opinion of the Ayrshires for the same purpose. His leading object in cattle-raising has been to furnish milk for market. For years he obtained the best native animals to be had, often paying as high as $85 per head, rearing the heifer calves from the best of the cows. But he found when these heifers came to be cows, "their qualities varied greatly—a few being good milkers, but the majority inferior." After this he tried Short-horns with unsatisfactory results, and in 1856 started with the grade Ayrshire. He was so well pleased with these that in 1858–9, he imported from Scotland two thorough-bred bulls and twenty-five cows. Mr. Peters remarks: "After having had four years' experience with these imported Ayrshires, I can unhesitatingly say, they have considerably exceeded my expectations. Compared with my former stock, they yield much more milk in proportion to the food consumed. When not giving milk, they are much more cheaply kept. They thrive on less food, and thrive better on that of an inferior quality, than the common stock." From the catalogue we learn that thirty of these cows, in the month of June last, in pasture, averaged thirty-three pounds of milk a day; some of them being heifers with their first calves, and all of them were driven a distance, in going and returning to pasture, of nearly three miles per day. One of these cows, "Jean Armour," gave an average of 49 lbs. 3 oz. of milk per day, for 114 days, commencing June 1st. During this period the greatest yield in any one day was 58 lbs., and the smallest 43 lbs. During July she gave an average of 51 lbs. 13 oz. daily.

There can be no doubt that an Ayrshire cow generally gives a larger return of milk, for the food consumed, than a cow of any other breed; hence their value and adaptedness for the purposes of supplying milk to cities. Specimens of this breed have been owned in Maine by Mr. Goodale of Saco, Mr. Abbott of Glenburn, Mr. Pope of Gardiner, J. D. Lang of Vassalboro', and others; but we do not know how much care has been observed in keeping the breed pure, or how extensively they have been disseminated.

Record's Tree Protector.

In another column will be found a communication from Hon. Job Prince, of Turner, in regard to this new device for the protection of fruit and other trees from the ravages of mice and insects. The article has been brought to our notice by the proprietors—whose advertisement is in this paper—and we are of opinion that it will be an effectual preventive against mice and insects, and therefore an article of utility, and one that will commend itself to all farmers, nurserymen and orchardists. It consists of two parts, a shield and a bonnet, both made of brass-wire cloth. The former is intended to go around the tree, and is secured by an India-rubber band which holds it firmly to its place. When applied, the earth is removed to the depth of an inch, the shield is drawn down to the surface, the earth is brought back again, and the upper part fastened to the tree. This prevents the depredations of the borer, and also prevents the tree from being gnawed by mice. The bonnet looks like a lamp-shade, and is affixed to the tree by the India-rubber belt. The under side is smeared with tar to which cotton is applied so that insects cannot ascend the tree. The cost of the article is reasonable, and from their utility they will doubtless come into general use. Samples can be seen at this office.

Acknowledgements.

We have received the first number of the *American Stock Journal*. It makes a good appearance, and will, we hope, be well sustained; Proceedings of the Rhode Island Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Industry, for 1862; a pamphlet on the Grape Growing Interest of California; Catalogue of the Nursery of J. W. Adams, Portland, Me.

A Word of Advice.

A spring has never opened, bringing with it more active, pressing, or important duties to the farmer, than the present. The melancholy situation of our country is such, that instead of releasing a large number of men from its service—as we so fondly hoped one year ago—it is likely to call to its support an additional number. These, as has been the case heretofore, will be largely taken from the producing class. And while there is as earnest a demand upon the farmer to plant and sow as largely as at any former period in the history of the rebellion, the help upon which he was depending to perform this work will, in part be transferred to other fields of labor. What shall make up this deficiency? How can the labor of our farms be performed? Fortunately, the use of machinery, which will be brought more largely into requisition than heretofore, can be very safely relied upon; and there is hardly any branch of farm work which cannot be greatly forwarded by its application. We believe upon most farms, improved implements and machines are now to be found, and it may be deemed advisable for those who cannot buy a mower or some equally costly machine, to hire one for the purpose of doing a part of their labor, and for this it might also be well for some one to purchase a machine in view of such a use. We believe it would pay a good interest. Again, neighbors who live at reasonable distances apart can exchange, and in that way perform the heaviest part of their work; and there are many young men, under twenty, who can at most kinds of farm labor perform man's work. The female portion of the household can also, in such an emergency as the present, assist in the lighter part of out-door labor, such as gardening, &c., in cases where there are enough to perform the labor in doors. The lesson of doing things well must also be learned and practiced, and no crop planted in a superficial manner. Manure well, use good seed, give good after culture, and the crop will yield an ample reward.

Wool, cattle, grain, and all kinds of farm produce is to command high prices—therefore raise all your lambs, put in liberally of all kinds of grain, (with the means at your command,) work with patience and hope, being assured that the victories of peace will surely come, when the tide of war has passed from our land.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Extracts from my Note Book---No. 12.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. It is a matter for congratulation by those interested, that the Legislature with all the influence brought to bear upon it, did not see fit to connect the agricultural interests with any existing institution, as it would, in such a case, have been virtually a loss of the value of the appropriated lands, so far as aiding those whom the appropriation was expected to benefit. The acceptation of the National grant of land, is, perhaps, enough for the present, leaving the manner it shall be used to be decided in the future, but when, or in whatever form it is used, it is entirely plain that those for whose benefit it was donated are strongly opposed to being connected with any existing institution. If they are to have a school, college, or farm, they prefer to have it distinct and separate, and not to occupy a position of secondary importance to any institution, no matter how worthy or powerful that institution may be.

MOONSHINE FARMING. Glad to see your article on "signs and superstitions," and wish you would hit some of them twice as hard. It is a fact, although I am sorry to record it, that farmers, as a class, are very prone to believe in signs and superstitions, and even in this nineteenth century and day of knowledge, persistently adhere to a belief in such traditional nonsense.

ICE. There has been large quantities of this "cooling" material secured hereabouts, the past season. It seems that the crop was a poor one at the westward, so there will, undoubtedly, be a good market for it at remunerating prices. Ice cutting has been carried on in the village of Rockport, Knox county, all winter, and besides filling the mammoth storehouse, one enterprising firm has piled up a huge structure of the "solid liquid" probably intending to cover it temporarily. I understand that western men offer to make large purchases here, but the owners decline to sell at present.

METEOROLOGICAL for the first quarter of the year. Monthly mean temperature for January was 23.7°; February, 20.9°; March 23°. Coldest day in January was the 8th; in February, 4th; in March, 13th. Warmest day in January, 16th; in February, 20th; in March, 26th. Lowest temperature in January, was 5° below zero at 7 A. M. of 20th; in February, was 23° below zero at 7 A. M. of 4th; in March, was 9° below zero at 7 A. M. of 13th. The rain fall for January, was 1 inch and 8-10; for February, 3 inches 3-10, and for March it was 8-10 of an inch. The depth of snow fall for January, was 26 inches; for Feb., 3¼ inches, and for March, 33½ inches.

REAL ESTATE. It is the general remark, and a fact, that there has not been so much changing in real estate for a long period as during this winter. Farms are continually changing hands, and yet the supply is hardly equal to the demand. The condition of our national affairs, and the depreciation of our currency, is probably the principal cause of this. Farmers who are selling their farms for the same number of dollars (paper) that they asked for them two years since, when gold was at par value, should remember that they are simply getting a two-thirds price, even with gold down to 33½ per cent.

FARM HELP will be high and scarce the coming season, and every farmer must make the most of his time and means. Do not heed the cry of "plant one acre more," but rather plant one acre less and do it better, and perhaps raise as much from two acres well cultivated as from three "run over."

SNOW STORM IN APRIL. We have just experienced a heavy snow storm, a regular North Easter, the heaviest, for so late in the spring, that has occurred for many years. The 6th was muddy and warm, and snow began falling in the night, which ended at 4 P. M. of the 7th; drifted and blustery all day; commencing to snow again at 6 P. M., and continued snowing and drifting till 3 P. M. of the 8th. Part of the time the wind was a gale from N. E. The snow was very dry and fine, and was estimated at twelve inches during both storms. G. E. B.

Belfast, April 9th, 1863.

For the Maine Farmer.

List of Officers.

At an adjourned annual meeting of the Kennebec Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society held at the City Hall, in Gardiner, March 28th, 1863, the following officers were elected:

J. M. Carpenter, *President*; Russel Eaton, A. D. Knight, Gilmore Blinn, *Vice Presidents*; Nathan Foster, *Secretary*; Michael Hildreth, *Treasurer and Collector*; *Trustees*—J. M. Carpenter, Pittston, Chairman, Howard Pettingill, Augusta, A. D. Knight, Hallowell, Isaiah Stevens, Farmingdale, Cyrus Libby, Gardiner, Moses True, Litchfield, Wm. B. Winslow, Chelsea, James B. Beedle, Richmond, T. J. Twycross, Dresden, J. W. Jameson, Windsor, Hosea Northey, Whitefield, Joseph Carlton, West Gardiner.

Gardiner, April 2, 1863. N. FOSTER, *Sec'y.*

For the Maine Farmer.

The Fence Question.

MESSRS EDITORS:—A few numbers since we gave you an article headed "Fence or no Fence," and we wished some able pen would take up the subject and tell of its benefits. Had an able pen taken this matter in hand, we would have dispensed with this communication.

But we think the writer may be a drover of cattle or swine, as we see he manifests a selfish principle, regardless of the expense of others. He would throw hundreds and thousands of dollars expense upon the farming community, to save the drover the expense of an extra hand by the side of his drove; although the most of drovers place their animals on board the cars, and thereby save time and trouble.

It is true, some farmers drive their cattle to and from pasture on the public roads. Let such keep up their fence if such a course accommodates them. We ask "Z. A. M." if the farmers generally should be compelled to keep a fence on the public road, because this is the fact? "Z. A. M." says the law should require every man who owns land adjoining the highway, to make and keep in repair, good and lawful fence; he should also be required to pay all damages that are sustained by persons lawfully driving cattle, in consequence of the want of such a fence. Rather than submit to such an erroneous law as the above, we would recommend that we take away our fence by the road side joining our fields, and keep our animals till winter and drive them when they can do no injury whatever, while those of us near the railroad can send them to market when we choose, and thereby save the immense expense of making and keeping in repair such a fence. Admitting "Z. A. M.'s" skeleton of a law, as he terms it, to become a law, we would ask him to estimate the expense that he would subject the farmers to, merely to accommodate the few who drive animals on the public road.

The gentleman asks the question, how either party can get recompense as the law now stand? We answer, the laws provides that no animal shall be allowed to run at large on the public road without a keeper, and if "Z. A. M." has more animals than he can take care of and keep on the public road, he must employ more keepers or be liable for all damages. A FARMER.

For the Maine Farmer.

Coarse or Fine Wooled Sheep.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—There has been much said of late, in the *Farmer*, about the flocks of fine wool sheep to be found in the various parts of the State, but as yet, very little has been said about coarse wool sheep. The question of fine or coarse wool sheep is a very important one at this time, when so many farmers are increasing their flocks. I have always taken much interest in sheep husbandry, and have always entertained the opinion that this kind of stock has been too much neglected by the farmers of Maine. Although sheep growers have not always realized the present extravagant prices for their wool and sheep, still on the whole, I believe it has been a better paying business than the growing of oxen.

But I am undecided in my own mind which kind of sheep is the most profitable to keep, and hope that some of the farmers who have had a chance to compare them, will confer a benefit on me and others like me, by letting their light shine through the columns of the *Farmer*.

In judging of which kind is best for the State of Maine, I think we should take into consideration the fact that extravagant prices for full blood or high grade Spanish Merinos will not always prevail. Though there may be bucks in Vermont now worth $15, whose progeny sell for $100 each, still such prices will not prevail after they shall have become generally introduced, and the speculation consequent on introduction shall have ceased. If fine wool sheep were as plenty as other kinds now are, they would, like those other kinds, be kept for their wool and not mutton alone, and then which would bring the most income according to the outlay? This is the question on which I would like information. The early maturity of the coarse wool sheep renders the lambs fit for the market the first season without the expense of wintering. That is quite an item. If the lambs can be sold during the summer or autumn, at a price ranging from $1.50 to $3, without ever having been fed at the barn, the money which you receive for them is almost clear gain. Z. A. G.

Greene, April 6, 1863.

For the Maine Farmer

To Protect Trees from Mice, Insects, &c.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Have you seen an article called the "Tree Protector," for which Homer B. Record of this town, has procured letters patent? If not, you ought to be made acquainted with it. My attention has recently been called to the necessity of protecting our fruit and ornamental trees from the ravages of mice, borers, and various insects so destructive to young trees, from the fact of having lost some very valuable ones by their depredations. Some have recommended treading or stamping down the snow around young trees in the early part of the winter, to prevent injurics by mice; that may answer a good purpose in some instances, but I never found it a sure remedy. But the borer is the greatest pest that I have to contend with, and I never have, until recently, found anything to prevent their entering the tree, and you know if once in, there is no remedy but to follow them up with a sharp stick. Mr. Record's Tree Protector, I think is a perfect protection against the ravages of mice, borers, and in fact, all vermin that infest fruit or ornamental trees. It is made of wire gauze fastened around the tree with a rubber band so as to expend with the growth of the tree. The lower end is placed in the ground, and it extends up the tree some ten to twelve inches, which prevents the approach of all vermin to the body of the tree, and is provided with a cap or bonnet that prevents their ascending to the top, unless they take wings. However, I will not attempt a further description, and if you have not seen the article and examined it for yourselves, I will send you one, and if you do not pronounce it A No. 1, after having tested its good qualities, you may return it to me or give it to your printer's devil for a play thing. JOB PRINCE.

Turner, April 5, 1863.

For the Maine Farmer.

West Penobscot Agricultural Society.

The West Penobscot Agricultural Society offer the following premiums on crops and dairy products, for the year 1863.

Full and accurate statements will be required, setting forth the process or method of rearing, managing, producing, and accomplishing the same, together with its cost and value.

Summer wheat, one acre, $3.00 2.50, 2.00, 1.50, 1.00; one-half acre, 2.00, 1.50, 1.00; barley, one acre, 2.00, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; one-half acre, 1.25, 1.00; rye, one acre, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; buckwheat, one acre, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; one-half acre, 1.00; oats, one acre, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; oats and peas, one acre, 1.50, 1.00; Indian corn, one acre, 3.00, 2.50, 2.00, 1.50, 1.00; one half acre, 2.00, 1.50, 1.00; peas, one acre, 2.00, 1.50, 1,00; beans, one-fourth acre, 2.00, 1,50, 1.00; potatoes, five acres, 5.00, 3.00; three acres, 4.00, 2.00; one acre, 3.00, 2.50, 2.00, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; one-half acre, 2.00, 1.50, 1.00; ruta bagas, one-half acre, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; carrots, one-fourth acre, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; one-eighth acre, 1.00 .75; beets, one-eighth acre, 1.00, .75; mangolds, one-fourth acre, 1.50, 1.00; best kitchen garden, 1.00, .80, .60, .50; flax, one acre, 2.00, 1.50; one-fourth acre, 1.50, 1.00.

DAIRY PRODUCTS. June butter, twenty pounds, $2.00, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; fall butter, twenty pounds, 2.00, 1.50, 1.25, 1.00; cheese, twenty pounds, 2.00, 1.50, 1 25, 1.00.

E. B. STACKPOLE,
M. E. RICE,
WM. SPRATT, } *Trustees.*

Agricultural Miscellany.

SPRING.

The bursting buds look up
To greet the sunlight while it lingers yet
On the warm hill side,—and the violet
Opens its azure cup
Meekly, and countless wild flowers wake to fling
Their earliest incense on the gales of Spring.

Continual songs arise
From universal Nature—birds and streams
Mingle their voices, and the glad earth seems
A second Paradise!
Thrice blessed Spring!—thou bearest gifts divine!
Sunshine, and song, and fragrance—all are thine.

Nor unto earth alone—
Thou hast a blessing for the human heart,
Balm for its wounds and healing for its smart,
Telling of Winter flown,
And bringing hope upon thy rainbow wing,
Type of Eternal Life—thrice blessed Spring!

On the Culture of Flax.—II.

PULLING. The fibre of flax is in the best state before the seed is quite ripe. If pulled too soon there is great waste in scutching, and if pulled too late, the fibre is coarse, and commands a less price in the market. The report read before the Farmer's Club of England, to which I have already referred, says:

"The crop is ready for pulling when the seed in the bolls is beginning to change from a green to a pale brown color, and the stalk becomes yellow for about two-thirds of its height from the ground. In pulling, it is necessary to clear the flax from all weeds, to pull it when perfectly dry, to keep the root ends even, and tie it up in small sheaves to be stooked up and stacked when perfectly dry."

A gentleman who was extensively engaged in flax culture in Tennessee before the rebellion broke out, wrote me an essay on flax culture, for publication, in which he says:

"When the stalks are full grown, and begin to turn yellow, and a third of the leaves have fallen off, then is the time to pull flax."

RIPPLING. This operation consists in separating the seed from the fibre. My Tennessee correspondent says that he generally first carries the fibre to his barn, where it is rippled; but the English and Irish method is, to ripple in the field, at the time of pulling. The apparatus for rippling consists of a row of iron teeth, screwed, or otherwise secured, into a block of wood. The teeth are made of half-inch iron, square rods, and so placed in the block as to have the angles towards the operator. They should be three-sixteenths of an inch apart at the bottom, half an inch at the top, eighteen inches long, and tapering to a point, commencing two inches from the top.

The ripple is secured to a plank, about 9 feet long, which should rest on two stools, or have legs attatched to it, so as to stand about the height of a chair. The ripplers then take their positions upon the plank, one on each side of the ripple, with a capacious winnowing sheet spread under them to receive the bolls as they are rippled off. The flax being brought and laid at the right hands of the ripplers, it is taken by them, about six inches from the roots, with one hand, and nearer the tops with the other, spreading the tops like a fan, drawing one half through the comb, then the other half by a turn of the wrist, and the operation is complete. The ripplers so time their movements as not to interfere with each other in drawing the flax through the ripple.

ROTTING. There are two methods of rotting; one, dew rotting, and the other, water rotting. My Tennessee correspondent says in regard to the former, which appears to be the system adopted there,—

"Dew rotting is done by spreading the flax upon the grass, in some convenient field, and letting it remain there till it is sufficiently rotted to be scutched to the best advantage."

That is not very definite, but the report of the Irish Agricultural Society now before me, is quite clear in its details of the foreign system of *water* rotting. "Steep pools," are made 12 feet broad, 18 feet long, and from 3½ to 4 feet deep. River or brook water is better than that from springs; and the pools are so constructed that a gentle flow of water is constantly passing through them. The flax is put into the pools in sheaves, somewhat sloped, in regular rows, carrying forward the roots of each layer to the bands of the sheaves below it. A layer of rushes or weeds is laid upon the upper course, upon which a covering of sods, or other convenient material, is placed, sufficient to keep all the flax just under water, when it is let into the pools. As the fermentation proceeds, some additional weight should be added, to be removed as soon as the fermentation ceases. Flax thus covered does not sink to the bottom, and is not affected by light and air. The process of steeping requires from 8 to 14 days, according to the heat of the weather and the temperature of the water.

SPREADING. Select a clean, smooth pasture, or closely cut meadow land, lay the flax evenly on the grass in long rows, spread it thin, and 6 to 8 days, if the weather be showery, and 19 to 12 days if it be dry, is a sufficient time for the flax to remain on the grass—say, 10 days in ordinary weather. It must be thoroughly dried by the sun, before it is removed for scutching.

DRYING BY STEAM. A correspondent of the Belfast (Ireland) *News*, who has devoted 30 years to the scrutching of flax, and the invention of machinery therefor, says:

"I particularly wish to call the attention of flax-spinners to the plan of drying the flax by steam, as not only quality but quantity is improved, and that to an extent they would scarcely credit. We should have the flax brought into a suitable state by *steam* drying, (none other being so safe or so good.) It will then be in a fit state for the scutcher. In fact none but those who have seen it can imagine the difference there is in scrutching a dry, as compared with a damp, strick of flax; and all the fine flax is as much improved in quality as quantity. When prepared in this way with steam drying, and carefully put through patent rollers, then it is fit to be put into the scutcher's hands, but not before."

To Raise Seedling Strawberries.

In attempting to produce a new variety of strawberries from seed, it should first be decided what are the qualities desired, and then, by selecting two varieties that possess these qualities as near as may be, and by fertilizing one with the other, we can come nearer to the object in view than we should by sowing seed collected indiscriminately from varieties not properly fertilized.

For instance, let us take the Wilson, which is very prolific, quite large and firm, but is rather acid, and too dark color, with a calyx that does not part readily from the berry, and the Peabody, which is not prolific, though large, and is of superior color and sweet, and that has a calyx that parts readily.

Now let us place these two varieties at some distance from other varieties, but in close proximity to each other, so that they can be the more readily operated upon. When they come into bloom we remove the stamens from as many flowers as desired, and then with a fine camel's-hair pencil take the pollen from the other variety, and dust it over the pistils of the flower from which the stamens have been removed. It is well to place a fine netting over the plant operated upon, to prevent insects from fertilizing it with pollen from inferior varieties.

The flowers should have the pollen applied several times; a few hours between each application, so that the fertilization shall be complete. It is well to use both varieties as parents, and fertilize the Wilson with the Peabody, and vice versa, as it cannot be determined which will produce the best until proved by actual experiment. I do not mention the Wilson and Peabody, believing them to be the best to raise seedlings from, but only to illustrate the principles. From my own experiments with them I have been somewhat disappointed, for nine-tenths of the seedling from the Wilson, fertilized by the Peabody, were more acid than the parent, although I succeeded in getting the color, and some of the other characteristics of the Peabody. But using the Peabody as the parent, I have had better success—getting a better colored berry, sweeter, and some plants that were quite prolific, with almost invariably the long neck, which is a peculiar characteristic of the Peabody.

Dairy and Wool Growing.

There has been at different times in the last few years a good deal of discussion as to the relative value of sheep and cows, and of the profits of the dairy and wool-growing—the successful wool-grower asserting the superiority of his branch, while the successful dairyman is equally positive that his is the most profitable business.

Each may be right, and both may be wrong. Both must be governed by the condition of their surroundings—by the soil, its nearness or remoteness from markets, as well as the topography of his locality. These, and the condition of his family, must all enter into the discussion. In our State, owing to the peculiarities of its soil and topography, farming may be divided in two systems—one where winter wheat is made the leading and staple crop, the other where grass or hay is the main crop. That is, all farming in the one culminates in wheat, and in the other, in food for animals. The one is the system adopted upon calcareous soils, the other upon silicious, and in mountainous and hilly regions.

As in our State we have but about three millions of acres of real wheat land, or a calcareous soil, it would seem that there need not be any great trouble relative to the best modes of managing it; nor need there be any controversy as to the other, and by far the largest portion of the cultivated lands of the State. This I take to be the true rule in regard to the proper mode of farming: If a man have a good wheat farm, which he plows often and seeds to clover, and makes more or less straw each year, sheep are the most profitable. But where a man wishes to avoid plowing as much as possible, and depends upon his pastures and meadows for his profits, then no stock pays so well as cows. Judging from the general appearance of the country in the two sections, the farmers are gradually adapting their practice to one or the other of these systems, according as their locality may make the necessity.

My attention has lately been drawn to this subject by the rather extravagant claims of some enthusiastic wool-growers that the profits from sheep largely exceeded those from cows, and from many dairymen becoming infected with the sheep mania to such an extent as to propose changing their cows for sheep; indeed some have done so already, where, from the condition of their locality, a failure is almost inevitable.

But whether sheep are more profitable than cows is a question which I propose to discuss very briefly, with a few figures, for I have not time to go into a minute detail. I assume then, that one cow is equal to seven sheep, in capital invested, and in expense of keeping. I will also assume that milk is worth, on an average, eight cents per gallon, and that wool is worth, upon an average, 40 cts. per pound. A cow (I speak of the average,) will yield 550 gallons of milk in a year, which, at 8 cents per gallon, will be, for her use, $44.00. A sheep will yield, on the average, 5 lbs. of wool, and one-half the flock a lamb, or one lamb to two sheep, which is worth $1.50. We have then the produce of 7 sheep $14,00; value of lambs $5,25; total for use of sheep $16,25. Use of cow $44,00; use of sheep $19,25; balance in favor of cow, $24,75.

But it will cost for extra labor in preparing the products of the cow for market. Granted, and we will allow that it costs $5,00, a liberal allowance. Then we state the account thus: Balance in favor of cow $24,75; deduct for extra labor over sheep $5,00; and still we have a profit of $19,75 over the sheep, equal to their whole product. Will somebody tell me where I have made a mistake?—T. C. P. in *Rural New Yorker*.

Grubs in the Heads of Sheep.

In your issue of January 10th, I noticed an article from the pen of the learned Dr. Dadd, saying that sheep will never be troubled with the grub in the head, if they have plenty of grub in the belly. Now, I must differ with the learned doctor, for my own observation and experience have convinced me that this is an error. In the winter of 1861–62. I began the winter with sixty choice ewes of the Leicester and Cheviot breeds, all in fine order. I fed them good timothy and clover hay until about the first of March, when I began to feed the sixty 12 quarts of oats per day. In about two weeks one of them was taken sick. It would eat nothing, had no use of its legs, and was blind as a stone. It lingered along for a few days and died. Soon another went the same way, and then another, until five or six had died. I could find no one who knew anything about what ailed them, but by examining the head I found out what was the matter. In the cavity directly over the eye I found the grub—some of them an inch long and one-fourth of an inch in diameter. Also in among the bones of the nose I found them from ¼ to ½ an inch long.

Having found the disease, the next thing to find was a remedy. I inquired of every one around who keep sheep, and no one knew of anything to kill them with. In looking over some old *Cultivators*, we found the following remedy: Take the sheep and set him up the same as to shear about the head and neck; then pour into each nostril about half or two-thirds of a tablespoonful of linseed oil—holding the head back for a short time to let the oil run well up into the nose and head—and repeat the operation again in about 24 hours. I lost none that I tried this on, if I tried it as soon as I saw they were affected. —*Cor. Rural New Yorker.*

The Corn Grub.

The corn crop has several formidable enemies to contend with, and among them is the grub, which sometimes literally destroys whole fields, and frequently damages the crop seriously. One of the best and most judicious remedies, perhaps the very best ever suggested, is the application of *salt* as soon as the plant makes its appearance above ground. Take one part common salt, and three parts plaster or gypsum, and apply about a tablespoonful *around* each hill, and it will be found to be a sure protection. The mixture should not come in contact with the sprouts, as it may destroy them. This method has been tried over and over again by some of the best farmers of Pennsylvania, Delaware and New Jersey, and when properly applied, has never failed to be perfectly successful. We hope our farmers, who have reason to fear the depredations of the grub this season, will try this mixture, leaving a few alternate rows of corn, without the salt, and communicate to us the result. We are aware some writers say salt has no effect upon vermin, but we speak in this matter on the best authority.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

Texel Sheep.

Winthrop W. Chenery of Belmont, has just received an importation of sheep from Friesland. They are known as Texal sheep, of Moulton Flandrin, the ewe being remarkable for fecundity. It is a large, long wooled breed, which produces heavy fleeces and of a tolerable degree of fineness. This breed was produced by a cross of the native sheep of Holland with the long-legged African sheep, native of the coast of Guinea, and imported thither. Mr. Chenery desires to test the economical value of this breed of sheep for Massachusetts and Maine.

Light.

The ordinary flat kerosene lampwick is usually trimmed so as to take the convex form. This causes the flame to assume the shape of a cone. It has been demonstrated that if the wick is made concave, lowest at the center, the flame will take a forked shape, similar to that produced by gas, and the amount of light is nearly doubled by the same quantity of kerosene.—*Suff. Democrat.*

Saving Liquid Manure.

We hear a great deal about dressing land with nitrate of soda, and various other chemical compounds, but does it ever occur to our agricultural friends that they possess in the liquid manure of their barnyards and pig pens, these as well as that other fashionable ingredient, ammonia, in abundance? All of which however, we see passing off down the ditches and high roads with every rain that falls, without any attempt to put a stop to the ruinous waste, while the owner is perhaps toiling for several miles to the city to bring back an expensive article of nitrate or sulphate of soda or some other *fashionable stimulant*. The thing is prepostrous, and if a tradesman were guilty of anything so perfectly thoughtless and wasteful, his friends would prognosticate his ruin at hand; but agriculture *may* bear it and even thrive under it when other trades would be destroyed by it.

The last time I visited my old acquaintance John Smith, I had enough to do to steer clear of a black stream of liquid manure, caused by a two days' rain, which I met issuing from his barnyard, which must have robbed the manure of one-tenth of its value. I could not prevail upon him to sink a cistern and convey the liquid to his pastures; this was labor which he did not covet. Now, as I know he reads the *Telegraph*, I take this plan of giving him another gentle shove upon the subject.

In order to bring out the subject still more plainly, I will give a short account of experiments which have been made, and which prove the superior value of liquid manure.

The first experiment was on pasture, the soil sandy, subsoil sandy gravel and perfectly dry; four acres of the field were well manured with first quality barnyard manure at the rate of twelve two-horse loads per acre. This manure was applied in February. The remainder of the field (about an acre,) was manured with liquid from the barnyard.

In the spring the appearance of the grass, both in color, height and thickness of the sward, was in favor of the liquid manure; during the summer the field was pastured with cows, and that portion manured with the liquid was eaten close, while the other portion was neglected until that manured from the liquid of the barnyard was close cropped.

In a second experiment one portion of the field (a small one,) was manured with a compost of night soil and wood mould, and the remainder with liquid manure; when the lot was mowed the line between them could be easily traced, and the difference was strongly in favor of the liquid manure.

I do not wish to be understood to object to the use of sulphate of soda or any other chemical compound, but I do think that when we make use of all the means which are at our command at or near home, we may then think of buying these compounds, but not till then. My argument is, that it is not economical to buy *stimulants* (not manures,) when in nine cases out of ten they can manufacture at home a manure which in effect will equal those purchased at a greater cost.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

Garden Herbs and their Medicinal Qualities.

EUPATORIUM PERFOLATUM or Boneset, taken internally, acts as an emetic and purgative, and a mild tonic. In slight cases of catarrh, a weak infusion may be drank warm upon retiring at night; it also relieves rheumatism. It may be found growing wild in swampy places.

ACHILLIA MILLEFOLIUM or YARROW—A decoction of the roots, which are warm and pungent, is recommended in cases of uterine hermorrhage. It is propagated by division of the roots.

SERAMUM ORIENTALE or Benare—The leaves of this plant, when used fresh, constitute an excellent demulcent drink, in fevers and bowel complaints; it is one of the best remedies for infants attacked with the summer complaint. Three or four leaves are placed in a tumbler of cold water; the dose is one or two teasponsful, taken occasionally. It is propagated by seed, which require to be sown early.

SALVIA OFFICINALIS or Sage.—This plant was formerly considered a

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, April 16, 1863.

Terms of the Maine Farmer.

$2.25 per annum, or $2.00 if paid within three months of the date of Subscription.

☞ *These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.* ☜

All payments made by subscribers to the *Farmer* will be credited in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

Notice.

Mr. H. P. Weeks will call upon subscribers in Waldo County.

Mr. Jas. Sturgis will visit subscribers in Kennebec County.

Mr. Warren Fuller of Hartland, will call upon subscribers in Somerset County.

Mr. S. N Taber will call upon Subscribers in Sagadahock County.

Old Times Revamped.

After a period of nearly half a century of peace and prosperity, and the consequent changes which improvements in the modes of performing labor, and modes of living, brought about by accumulations of wealth, we seem to be brought back to a touch of old times. War, which formerly used to be the rule, rather than an exception among the nations, has come upon us and made us familiar with its waste, destruction of life and property, and its usual amount of horrors. It is strange how we become used to things by frequent repetition. How calmly and philosophically we can look upon occurrences now, when a year or two ago they would have filled us with consternation. When the news was received that the mob in Baltimore had attacked the Massachusetts troops that were marching through the city, and two or three were killed, our hearts were filled with grief and indignation; but we can now hear with great composure, of battles where thousands are killed.

Such was the state of things in olden times. Reports of battles and losses, of triumphs and defeats were matters of course, and were received with the utmost calmness. As it was then, so it is getting to be now. It is, in fact, old times revamped, proving that human nature is the same in reality through all time, varying only in its manifestations, according to the circumstances in which it acts, and with which it is surrounded As it is in the moral, so it is in the physical department. Arts, manufactures, &c., have undergone great changes, and improvements are based upon contingencies of changes of material and demand, different from what were once to be had. Change the course of these, and render the production or facilities of procuring them difficult, and you bring the community back to the original status, and in a great degree reorganize the condition of things and the routine of operations very much as in the olden times to which we have alluded.

This is getting to be the case with us in many respects. We will mention a few instances. In early times, when it became necessary for Government to equip and clothe large armies, and wool for the purpose became scarce, great speculations arose in sheep, and what has received the historical name of "Merino fever," was very prevalent throughout the country. Afterwards, when peace prevailed, and wool came down to a moderate price, people would laugh at the memory of the excitement, and sheep speculations, as if they would never occur again. But a recurrence of similar circumstances and demands bring about a recurrence of similar speculations, and a relapse of the "Merino fever" is now in existence all over the country.

Again, before the improvements in cotton-growing, incident to the improvements in the art of cleaning and spinning, the people of northern sections used to grow flax, and manufacture linen enough for their own use and consumption. The flax fields, and the flax brake, and the spinning wheel were common in every neighborhood and in every house. A cutting off of the supply of cotton, brings us back to a condition similar to the times when but little was grown or manufactured, and the people are getting ready to follow the practices of those days. The flax fields will again blossom on almost every farm, and, although the old hand brake, and the foot wheel may not be resuscitated and brought into action, the flax fibre, in all its changes, from thread to linen, will again take its station in domestic economy, and tow and linen resume the places from which it has long been ousted by the would-be king cotton. We rejoice at this. We have no fault to find with cotton fabrics. We should be glad to see the time come again, when shirtings and sheetings, and all the kinds of cotton manufactures will be as abundant and as cheap as ever. But, while that time, now some way in the distance, shall be coming, and long before it gets here, we hope flax growing and flax manufacturing will be so firmly established among us, as to teach all *cottonocracy* that cotton can never be king, on the one hand, and make us independent of all foreign supply on the other.

Last, and perhaps some will think *not least*, is the anxiety manifested by many in different sections to become tobacco planters, and to learn the "craft mystery" of tobacco growing and tobacco curing. In old times, almost every farmer at the North had his tobacco patch, and raised enough of the "filthy weed" for his own use at least. As the facilities of communication with the South increased, and the prices of Virginia or Southern tobacco fell by the decreased cost of transportation, the culture of tobacco at the North fell off, and finally became so completely discontinued that a living tobacco plant is a curiosity. The cutting off the supplies from the South, has turned the attention of snuffers, smokers, and chewers to the chances of producing it at home, and the anxious inquiries for seed, and for information in regard to the modes of raising and preparing it, indicate that tobacco planting will be quite fashionable among us during the coming season. This will afford another instance of what we call "old times revamped."

We wish we could revamp them in some other particulars. If we could revamp some of the fashions and follies, civil, political and religious, of these times, into some of the sterling and uncompromising integrity of the days of Washington and his associates, we should begin to think that the day of our deliverance from the madness of secession was at hand.

Cattle Show and Fair in Portland. The Portland *Press* states that arrangements have been entered into between the Cumberland County Agricultural Society and the Portland Horticultural Society, for holding a grand joint Fair and Cattle Show in this city the coming fall, to commence Wednesday, Oct. 14th. The Cattle Show will probably be held on Munjoy Hill, and the track will be repaired so as to give a good opportunity for showing the action, points and speed of the various classes of horses. A liberal sum has been appropriated for premiums. The exhibition of fruit, flowers, vegetables and manufactured articles, will be in the new City Hall. It is intended to make this one of the finest affairs of the kind ever held in this State.

☞ An interesting letter from Rev. H. L. Bray, Chaplain of the 12th Maine, at Baton Rouge, will be found in this week's paper, He desires us to request the friends of the soldiers of the regiment to send them papers from home as frequently as possible. He says very few persons who have had no experience in camp life can appreciate the full value of such favors.

The War News of the Week.

After long months of preparation for attack and defence, a demonstration upon Charleston has at length been made. On Monday the 6th inst., the iron-clad fleet of Admiral Dupont, consisting of seven Monitors and the steam-frigate Ironsides, crossed the bar off the harbor, and after making dispositions for the attack on the ensuing day, came to anchor. Preparations for the conflict were continued on the morning of the 7th until noon, when the signal was given to get under weigh, and between one and two o'clock the fleet was in motion. The plan of action was to move up the main ship channel and without paying any attention to the fire of the lower batteries steer directly to Fort Sumter and engage its northwest face at a distance of six or eight hundred yards, the fire of the squadron to be aimed at the centre embrasures of the Fort. In attaining this position the vessels would be compelled to pass the triple fire of Fort Moultrie, Cummings' Point and Fort Sumter, at a mean range of only five or six hundred yards. If they succeeded in running this terrible gauntlet without being disabled, the monitors would occupy an advantageous position between Fort Sumter, and the city, exposed only to the guns of that Fort, and without serious hindrance from the more distant batteries, might concentrate their fire upon it, and speedily accomplish its destruction. Unfortunately, however, the obstructions placed in the channel by the rebel engineers were of so formidable a nature that the vessels could not force a passage through them, and after sustaining the converging fire of the hostile batteries almost at point blank range for three-quarters of an hour, and several of them becoming disabled, they were compelled to retire from the conflict.

The action lasted three hours. All the Monitors took a gallant part in the terrible contest, and it was only when the attempt was found impracticable to penetrate the skillfully laid obstructions in the channel that the signal was given them to withdraw from the fight. During the engagement the Whitney iron-clad Keokuk was so badly riddled with shot that she sunk the next morning near Morris Island, her commander and several of her crew being wounded. All hands were safely removed from her, however, before she went down. The Patpsco had her 200-pounder and Parrott guns dismounted by their own recoil. The turret of the Passaic was bent in and cramped her 11-inch gun so as to prevent its working. The Nahant is also reported to have received a shell at the junction of the turret with the deck, which prevented the turret from revolving and rendering her useless for the time. The Ironsides, Admiral Dupont's flagship, proved to be too large and unwieldy to navigate the narrow channel, and consequently was compelled to play an unimportant part in the conflict.

The obstructions which prevented the advance of the fleet, extended across the harbor from Fort Sumter to Moultrie, and consisted of a net work of chains and cables to which were suspended torpedoes and other marine explosives.

It is believed that the damage done to Fort Sumter by our fire was serious so far as known. It consisted in two embrasures being knocked into one and numerous indentations on the walls, which it is believed a few hours' more pounding would convert into a serious break. What damage or loss of life is sustained in the interior of the fort is not of course known, but it is believed to be considerable.

At the last accounts the fleet still occupied its position inside the bar, and it is believed were making preparations to renew the attack. We confess, however, that the defences of this traitor stronghold, upon which the engineering skill of the rebels has been uninterruptedly employed for the past two years, appear to be of such a formidable character that we see little hope of success by a naval attack alone. The place must be closely invested by sea and land and starved into surrender.

Intelligence from the seat of war in other quarters, is not without interest. The forces of Gen. Granger were attacked by the enemy under Gen. Van Dorn at Franklin, Tenn., on the 9th, and after a severe fight the rebels were beaten with great loss.

Gen. Foster is reported to occupy a critical position at Washington, North Carolina, where he is closely hemmed in by a superior force of the enemy. Reinforcements which had been sent him by steamer, were unable to pass the rebel batteries. Forces by land were also pushing along to his assistance, but at last advice had not reached him. It is hoped that Gen. Foster will be able to hold out until a sufficient force can be brought to his relief.

The news from Vicksburg gives no assurance of active movements in that quarter at present. The Yazoo expedition having failed in its object, had returned to Helena, and will be again united with Gen. Grant's forces for a new demonstration upon Vicksburg. Several iron-clads and transports were preparing to run the blockade of the batteries at that place. It is thought that the attempt would be made on Friday or Saturday night last.

Nothing new from the army of the Potomac.

Bread Riots in the South. Reliable information has been received of a terrible destitution of food in the Southern cities, and of the occurrence of armed outbreaks by the starving population to supply themselves with the necessaries of life. In the very capital of the Confederacy, under the eye of Jeff. Davis and his accomplices in mischief three thousand starving women have raged along the streets, broken open and sacked stores, and supplied themselves with food and clothing wherever they could. Three weeks ago a similar disturbance was reported as taking place at Savannah; and the week before that the women of Atlanta helped themselves in like manner, presenting pistols at the heads of the shopkeepers. At Raleigh, N. C., a company of women went to a store and appropriated several barrels of molasses. At Salisbury, in the same State, on the 18th ult., a mob of soldiers' wives armed themselves with hatchets, and visited one store after another, demanding and obtaining flour and molasses. Another riot has since occurred at Petersburg. We may well imagine that these six instances are only a part of the cases which have actually occurred thus far, and only the beginning of what is yet to come. The Raleigh *Standard* says: "bread riots have commenced, and when they will end, God only knows."

☞ A patent has been issued to Mr. F. T. Grant of this city, for a "lathe for turning irregular forms," and we had the pleasure yesterday of seeing the machine in operation, at the shop of Grant & Shaw, in this city. The machine is especially adapted for turning broom handles, (although it can be used for turning handles of all descriptions,) a moveable collar acted upon by an improved cam causing a uniform tapering of the handle. With ordinary speed it will turn ten handles a minute—it has turned fourteen, while two is the number turned by lathes of the old pattern. This machine has been purchased by Priest & Locke of the N. E. Broom Co., Boston, and Mr. Grant already has orders for several others which are in process of construction. It was patented March 24, 1863.

☞ We are under renewed obligations to Hon. L. M. Morrill, of the U. S. Senate, and Hon. John H. Rice of the House, for valuable Congressional documents.

☞ A monster wolf was poisoned in Carthage, Franklin County, a few days since. He had been for some time foraging among the sheep flocks of that vicinity.

The Position and Defences of Charleston.

Mr. C. C. Felton, the editor of the Baltimore *American*, writing from Port Royal, gives an account of the departure of Admiral Dupont with his iron-clad fleet and gunboats to engage in the long-deferred movement for the capture of Charleston. The intelligence of the commencement of the attack upon the city and its results, as reported by the rebel papers, will be found in our war record. The following description of the formidable and elaborate defences of the place from the correspondence above alluded to, will be interesting to our readers:

"A large portion of the fleet of Admiral Dupont, consisting of the iron-clads and wooden walls, being now visible from the rebel signal station connecting with Fort Sumter, as well as the spires of the city of Charleston, there can be no impropriety in my stating that the attempt to retake and possess the forts and public property, and reduce the city to subjection to the national authority, will soon take place. In all probability, before the receipt of this letter tidings of the opening of the conflict will reach you through the Richmond papers.

The number of guns now mounted by the rebels along the five miles of approach to the city are estimated at nearly 400, including those at Fort Sumter, Moultrie, Cummings' Point, Fort Pinckney, and a battery commanding the middle ground near the city. There are also said to be guns and mortars mounted on the Charleston battery, which has a fine front on the approaches to the city. The troops now assembled at and around Charleston for its defence are reported to number 75,000. It is presumed that both troops and guns will be brought from Savannah to join in the defence.

There is, therefore, no doubt that the attack on Charleston will be the greatest naval undertaking in the world. Against these 400 guns our iron-clads will be able to bring not more than 30, though it is doubtful whether more than 60 of their guns can be brought to bear on the fleet at any one time. Still, to reach the upper works, if such should be the course adopted, they will be compelled to run the gauntlet of all these immense batteries. Admiral Dupont has been supplied by the government with all the appliances of science and art in guns, projectiles and vessels, to make his means of attack equal to the rebels' power of defence.

The wooden gunboats and men of war forming a portion of Admiral Dupont's fleet are very numerous, and are on hand ready and anxious to participate in the fight. The New Ironsides, with her sixteen heavy guns in battery, is also inside of the bar ready for action. The three mortar schooners, including the Para, commanded by Capt. Thurber, are also here, and will participate in the fight.

The planting of guns on the wharves and battery would indicate the determination on the part of Beauregard to lay the city under fire as a last resort, as his fire could only be returned from that quarter by a bombardment of the city. The finest houses face the battery, and would soon be demolished if plied with 15-inch shells from the monitor batteries. A fire opened on our monitors from the battery would invite response, and until their guns were silenced the city would of course be under fire.

I am indebted to Capt. Platt of the Coast Survey steamship Bibb for a mammoth chart of Charleston Harbor and its surroundings, and the distances from point to point, not only in the harbor and around the city, but out to sea, with the depth of water accurately noted at all points. It also gives the location of all the batteries and forts erected by the rebels on the islands approaching the harbor.

What is termed Charleston Bar is a gentle elevation of the bottom, extending across the whole front of the harbor, a long and broad ridge of sand, rendering the water too shallow for the passage of large vessels, except through those channels which were carefully marked out by the Government before the rebellion, but these buoys have been taken up by the rebels. They have also cut down the trees on the Islands which were used by pilots as ranges for the channels, and have thrown all obstacles in their power in the way of our entrance. With the aid of the Coast Survey charts, and the still more valuable personal services of Captain Boutelle and Lieut. Platt, but little difficulty is apprehended in finding these channels.

There are three channels through the bar to Charleston, one called the Ship Channel, running in front of Morris Island on the south side of the bar; the second, the Swash Channel, in the Centre; and the third, Sullivan's or Maffit's Channel, running along in front of Sullivan's Island, on the North side of the bar. The distance from either of these channels from outside the bar to Fort Sumter is four to five miles; that by the Swash Channel, being more direct, is less than four miles. Morris Island is on the south side of the bar, and is three miles long from Lighthouse Inlet to Cummings' Point, which is in the rear of Fort Sumter. At different points along its three miles of front it has four heavy sand batteries, completely commanding the whole length of the Ship Channel.

Sullivan's Island forms the coast on the north side of the bar, and is three miles long from Beach Inlet to Fort Mouitrie. There is a very heavy battery on this Island at beach Inlet, and several others along the shore, commanding the whole of Sullivan's or Maffit's Channel.

Fort Moultrie thus commands the entrance to the harbor of the city, at the end of Sullivan's Island, on the north side, while Cumming's Point Battery, at the end of Morris Island, on the south side, and directly opposite, holds a similar position, the two points being in a direct line, just one mile and a half apart. All three of the channels converge into one in front of Fort Sumter, which stands midway between Fort Moultrie and the Cummings' Point Battery. Fort Sumter is not, however, in a direct line between the two, but is located about half a mile nearer to the city than either of them, consequently its position is at an angle three quarters of a mile from the shore on either side.

The harbor of Charleston inside of Sumter, is three miles long from Sumter to the city front, and has an average width of nearly two miles.

Fort Pinckney is on Shuter's Folly Island, immediately opposite the city, and at the mouth of Cooper River. It is a small stone structure, of no account, and could be shattered to pieces by a 15-inch shell. There are, however, numerous sand battereis said to be located along the shore within the harbor, commanding the approaches to the city. There is also said to be a powerful fort located on the middle ground, which is in the centre of the harbor, a mile and a half from Sumter and from the city. The City Battery, a public promenade, similar to the New York Battery, but much larger, is also said to be mounted with heavy ordnance.

The location and form of the city of Charleston is very much like that of New York, the Cooper River representing the East River, and the Ashley River the North River. Its width, from river to river, is not half so great as New York, consequently when once taken it can be easily held by gunboats stationed on these two rivers, against any land forces that might be brought against it. It can thus be cut off from all communication with the main land, like an island for all military purposes.

It will be seen by a careful reading of the foregoing statement of localities and distances that passing up either Maffit's Channel or the Ship Channel our ironclads will be under the fire of the sand batteries for three miles before they reach Fort Sumter. By entering the Swash Channel, which passes through the centre of the bar they would avoid all the batteries until they get in range of Sumter. The Swash Channel, however, is too tortuous and uncertain, so that the entrance will doubtless be made by the Ship Channel, which runs along the range of the batteries on Morris Island. This channel is better known, less changeable, and easier navigated than either of the others.

Thus, on entering, the fleet, after running the gauntlet of all these shore batteries will ultimately come in range of Fort Sumter. On approaching Fort Sumter there will be a concentration of fire upon them such as has never before occurred in naval history. The guns of Sumter, Moultrie, and Cummings' Point will be able to concentrate their fire on them at one and the same moment, throwing a weight of metal that would probably sink all the wooden vessels in the navy if they should come within striking distance.

Within the harbor, beyond Fort Sumter, there will doubtless be a concentrated fire of great power, but then the city will be under the guns of our monitors. Whether it will stand fire or surrender, time will disclose.

There are also obstructions in the harbor, which, together with numerous tordedoes, will render the work of reaching the city front one of great hazard. Whether this will be accomplished or not, a short time will decide. It will be a trial of Monitor vessels in which all the power of modern artillery and engineering skill will be arrayed for their destruction. They will have to undergo a test as to their vulnerability that will, if they should succeed, be the death knell of all wooden vessels for future naval warfare.

☞ The ice has left the river at this place and probably go out to sea this week.

A National and State Fast Appointed.

The following is the Proclamation of the President, for a day of National fasting and prayer:

A PROCLAMATION,

By the President of the United States.

Whereas the Senate of the United States, devoutly recognizing the supreme authority and just government of Almighty God, in all the affairs of men and nations, has, by a resolution, requested the President to designate and set apart a day for National prayer and humiliation:"

And whereas it is the duty of nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, to confess their sins and transgressions, in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon, and to recognize the sublime truths announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord:

And, insomuch as we know that, by His divine law, nations, like indiuiduals, are subjected to punishments add chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war, which now desolates the land, may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us!

It behoves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness.

Now, therefore, in compliance with the request, and fully concurring in the views of the Senate, I do, by this my proclamation, designate and set apart Thursday, the 30th day of April, 1863, as a day of national humiliation, fasting and prayer. And I do hereby request all the people to abstain from their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite, at their several places of public worship and their respective homes, in keeping the day holy to the Lord, and devote themselves to the humble discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion.

All this being done in sincerity and truth, let us then rest humbly in the hope, authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the Nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings, no less than the pardon of our national sins, and restoration of our now divided and suffering country to its former happy condition of unity and peace.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington this thirtieth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh. Abraham Lincoln.

[L. S.]

By the President.
William H. Seward, Secretary of State.

PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

In obedience to a memorable and revered custom, and with the advice and sanction of the Executive Council, I do hereby appoint Thursday, the thirtieth day of April inst., to be observed throughout this State as a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer.

The day thus designated is peculiarly impressive and significant, because the whole nation has been summoned to unite in its observance by solemn proclamation from the President of the United States.

Abstaining from our ordinary pursuits and avocations, may we come together in our temples of worship, with a spirit of penitence for our many sins. Let us supplicate God, that "He will deliver us from our transgressions, and make us not the reproach of the foolish." Let us beseech Him, "that He will remove His stroke from us least we be consumed by the blow of His hand." Let us implore Him that we may be of "those whose God is the Lord," and that trusting in the Redeemer's name, "mercy shall compass us about and righteousness exalt us."

May we, in craving forgiveness of our personal transgressions, devoutly pray that God's merciful kindness shall be extended to us as a Nation; that the dark cloud of civil war, still resting upon us with all its calamities, may be removed, and that the light of peace may speedily break in upon us with the triumph of Justice, Liberty and Truth. And in all our sufferings, let us trust with unshaken faith that God will give us grace and strength to bear them with patriotic fortitude; and that in His mercy, He will unite the hearts and hands of all good men in every needful effort for our country's weal. As our forefathers in their seasons of momentous trial, never failed to appeal with Faith and Hope to the Throne of Grace, for guidance and protection, so let us in the day of calamity turn with like confidence to the same great Power of wisdom and strength Man is weak, but God is mighty; without His aid we wage wars in vain; but if He be with us, those against us will be confounded, and our nation will come forth victorious over its enemies, and purified because of its trials.

Given at the Council Chamber, at Augusta, the first day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the eighth-seventh.

Abner Coburn.

By the Governor:
Joseph B. Hall, Secretary of State.

The Union Levee. The labors of the ladies of this city in behalf of the sick and wounded Union soldiers have been disinterested and untiring. The Aid Society, organized soon after the commencement of the war, have held meetings every week, employing their time in the manufacture of clothing, and in collecting, packing and forwarding other articles for hospital use to be applied wherever needed, through the agency of the Sanitary Commission. Our citizens, generally, have also co-operated in the benevolent work, liberally contributing of their means whenever called upon for the purpose. Among the methods resorted to to replenish the treasury of the Society, and enable them to go on with their benevolent and patriotic labors, a grand levee and fair was projected, in which all who desired to do something for the cause could unite. The idea was enthusiastically responded to by our entire community. The levee came off at the State House on Thursday and Friday evenings of last week, and was in every sense of the word, a splendid success. The Representatives' Hall and Rotunda were fitted up and elegantly decorated for the occasion under the direction of J. H. Cochran, Esq., presenting a most tasteful and attractive appearance. Dramatic representations and tableaux were exhibited in the Representatives' Hall, and the Rotunda was devoted to promenading and dancing, to the music of the Augusta Band and the Quintette Club, under the leadership of that accomplished and admirable musician, Carl Krebs. Tables of refreshments were spread in the lobies and committee rooms surrounding the Rotunda, and an evergreen tree bearing a rich and varied fruitage was conspicuously placed where all who desired to do so could partake thereof for a trifling consideration. The building was crowded with people on each evening—and every thing passed off pleasantly and successfully. The gross receipts of the levee for the two evenings we learn were over $1000, of which, deducting expenses, the very handsome sum of $800 will be placed at the disposal of the Society. A good work, well done!

Off the Track. The passenger train from Bangor was thrown from the track about two miles out of the city on Wednesday morning of last week, in consequence of the snow-plow catching a rail and tearing up a portion of the track, which threw off the engine and two cars. Most of the passengers went back to Bangor, and the train reached Waterville about 7 o'clock A. M. It was a very narrow escape from a severe disaster.

Operatic Concert. Our music-loving citizens will be delighted to hear that Madame Varian, the charming Vocalist, is to sing to-morrow (Wednesday) evening, at Meonian Hall. Mr. H. Draper, also a celebrated baritone singer, and Mr. Hoffman, the "Excelsior" Pianist, are to appear. We are sure that the mere announcement will draw out a large and fashionable audience, for a first class concert is a rarity seldom enjoyed in our city.

☞ A movement is on foot in this city for the immediate organization of a military company in compliance with the recent requisition of the Governor and Council. A meeting of our able-bodied loyal citizens will be called soon for the purpose, and in the mean time a paper for the signature of those who desire to enroll their names in such an organization may be found at the Express office.

☞ The story of the mysterious disappearance of Young Blossom, of Turner, while in pursuit of deserters, is discredited by the Anson *Advocate*. That paper states that he is on a visit among friends in Piscataquis County.

☞ A new post-office has been established at North Brooklin, Hancock County, and Mr. E. E. Dodge appointed postmaster.

Our Iron-clad Fleet at Charleston. We copy the following extract from one of Carlton's letters to the Boston *Journal*, written from Hilton Head. It gives some interesting facts in regard to the iron-clad fleet now engaged in the work of demolishing that pestilent nest of rebellion in South Carolina:

"The flagship of Admiral Dupont, the Wabash, in the action at Hilton Head, eighteen months ago, at every broadside from twenty-four guns threw 1700 pounds of solid shot into the rebel fortifications. Her guns many of them are 11-inch, the same calibre as most of those in the iron-clad fleet, yet this noble vessel would be powerless against a single monitor. The tonnage of the Wabash is 3274, while that of the monitors is but 884. The iron-clads of the monitor class are concentrated powers.

The fleet is composed of the following vessels:

	Tonnage.	Guns.
New Ironsides, Capt. Thos. Turner,	3,486.	18
Montauk, Capt. John S. Worden,	884	2
Passaic, Capt. Percival Drayton,	884	2
Weehawken, Capt. John Rodgers,	884	2
Nahant, Capt. John Downes,	884	2
Katskill, Capt. G. W. Rodgers,	884	2
Patapsco, Capt. Daniel Ammen,	884	2
Nantucket, Capt. D. M. N. Fairfax,	884	2
Keokuk, Capt. A. G. Rhind,	740	2
	10,414	34

The armament of the New Ironsides is sixteen 11-inch guns, and two 200-pound rifled Parrott guns. All the monitor class except the Keokuk have each a 11-inch and a 15-inch. The Keokuk has two turrets and a 11-inch gun in each turret.

The 11-inch guns throw a solid shot weighing 180 pounds; the 15-inch guns a solid shot weighing 476 pounds. The total weight of metal thrown at a single discharge sums up:

25 eleven inch guns,	4500 lbs
7 fifteen "	3332 "
2 two hundred lbs.,	400 "
34 guns,	8232 lbs.

But as the New Ironsides will be able to use but one broadside at a time in an attack upon Sumter, one-half of her broadside guns should be deducted—1440 lbs.—which would give a total weight of 6792 lbs. of metal which can be hurled at a given moment upon the rebel works!

Guns of so large calibre cannot be fired rapidly, not oftener than six or eight times an hour. Time must be given them to cool. Sixty times a day is probably the maximum. At that rate the expenditure of ammunition will be enormous. A single 11-inch gun fired sixty times, or once every ten minutes for ten hours, will throw ten thousand eight hundred pounds of metal. A 15-inch gun fired with the same rapidity will require twenty-eight thousand five hundred and sixty pounds! Any one of the Monitor class will require thirty-nine thousand three hundred and sixty pounds, nearly twenty tons of shot! Each Monitor will also use about two tons of powder per day. The entire fleet, working at the same rate will hurl at the rebel fortifications four hundred and fifty thousand pounds of iron in ten hours, at an expense of fifty thousand pounds of powder! or two hundred and twenty-five tons of shot and twenty-five tons of powder!

Many people have wondered at the long delay on the part of Admiral Dupont, but they will appreciate the magnitude of the undertaking when they learn that the iron-clad fleet would use up in six days twelve hundred tons of shot and shell, and a hundred tons of powder!"

The Burning of Jacksonville. The burning of Jacksonville and Pensacola on being evacuated by our troops seems to have been acts of unnecessary and unwarranted vandalism. We are ashamed to record the fact that Maine soldiers were concerned in these disgraceful transactions, although the officers did everything in their power to restrain them. The correspondent of the Boston *Journal* says:

"The order for the evacuation of Jacksonville reached Col. Montgomery as he was about starting for a long march inland. The soldiers of the 8th Maine and 6th Connecticut, when the order for evacuation was issued, set fire to the Catholic church and parsonage. Col. Rust, Col. Hawley, and other officers attempted to prevent further vandalism, and no more fires were set till the next morning, when flames burst out simultaneously in all parts of the town. A high wind was blowing, and in a few moments two-thirds of the town was a bright blaze. It was an awful, sublime, humiliating spectacle. Beautiful dwellings, large warehouses, fine shade trees, the homes of three thousand people were destroyed. The secession portion of the community had all gone beyond our lines, by permission, a week ago. The people who remained were unqualifiedly loyal; many of them are from the North. Many of the men enjoyed the spectacle in high glee; others expressed their abhorrence of the act. The colored regiments had nothing to do with it; they behaved with propriety throughout.

There may be apologists for the burning of Jacksonville, but under the present light it seems to have been an outrageous act of vandalism, for which there is no excuse or palliation."

Organization of Military Companies. An order has passed the Executive Council authorizing the organization and equipment of eighteen military companies in this State forthwith.—These companies are to be raised six in each Division, as follows: Portland 2, Saco and Biddeford 1, Paris and Norway 1, Lewiston and Auburn 1 Farmington 1, Bath 1, Augusta 1, Skowhegan 1, Damariscotta and Newcastle 1, Rockland 1, Belfast 1, Bangor 2, Dover and Foxcroft 1, Ellsworth 1, Calais 1, Houlton 1. Petitions for companies in the above named places, will be received by the Governor and Council, or in the recess by the Adjutant General, forms for which and for enlistments, will be prescribed in a general order soon to be issued. We learn from the Bangor *Whig* that one company of the first Division, numbering over one hundred members, has been already organized in that city, with the following officers: Llewellyn J. Morse, Captain; Charles W. Dennett, 1st Lieutenant; Roby Ireland, 2d Lieutenant. Another company will be immediately organized in that city.

The Normal Schools. We learn that the Commissioners appointed by the Governor and Council to locate the three Normal Schools for which the Legislature at its late session appropriated four half townships of land, had a meeting in this city on Wednesday last to consult in relation to the matter, and adjourned to meet on the 8th day of June. Meanwhile they will advertise for proposals from the various institutions desiring to become Normal Schools, and will decide at their June session. The law provides that the schools shall go into operation in August, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

The Connecticut Election. Full returns give the result of the election in Connecticut, on Monday the 6th inst. The aggregate vote in the State is 79,478. Buckingham, the Union candidate for Governor has a majority of 2,722. Three Union men and one democrat have been elected to Congress—a Union gain of one. The State Senate stands 14 Union to 7 democrats. The House of Representatives stands 140 Union to 94 democrats. The Union candidates for Sheriff were elected in six out of the eight counties.

Maine Soldiers Drowned. A Pensacola letter in the Bath *Times* gives the following names of the soldiers of the 15th Maine drowned in the expedition to Milton, Fla., mentioned by us last week:

Corporal Charles W. Greeley, Co. H, Exeter, aged 20 years; privates, Frank P. Roundy, Co. H, Corinth, aged 19; Samuel S. Colbath, Co. H, Corinth, aged 22; Chas. Gilker, Co. C, Canada, aged 27; Wm. Keef, Co. C, Masardis, aged 30; Augustus C. Bean, Co. C, Maysville, aged 19; Mariner T. Green, Co. B, Lisbon, aged 20.

The 13th Maine. The 13th Maine Regiment, now garrisoning the forts below New Orleans, the Lewiston *Journal* says, is to be changed into a heavy artillery regiment. The officers do not object, and having served the forts for nine months, the men are well prepared for such a change.

☞ The special agent of the Post Office Department is on the track of the villain who stole the mail bags at Amherst recently, and it is probable his arrest will lead to the detection of a gang of them, who were no doubt connected with the attempted robbery of the post office in this city some weeks ago.

Army Correspondence.

Letter from the 12th Maine.

Baton Rouge, March 26th, 1863.

Messrs. Editors:—My letter may be somewhat "mixed and confused," as it is written amid the bustle of preparation for a move.

I reached New Orleans on the morning of the 18th, after a passage of thirteen days, in the McClellan. During first four or five days, our progress was retarded by head winds. One day we spent at Key West. Still, with all due allowances, the best we could do was to vote the McClellan "a safe boat," but "a slow coach." After the vote was declared, one of our lady passengers remarked—"I hope nothing personal was intended when they named this transport the McClellan." No response was made to the remark.

The first thing which strikes the eye of a stranger upon landing in the "Cresent City," is the grass that grows in the middle of the streets. It reminds me of the big threats and frightful prophesies of certain southern leaders, uttered two years and more ago, concerning such northern villages as New York and Boston. To shun the slightest approach to hyperbole, and speak with tame sobriety, I do not hesitate to say that a horse turned out to pasture in the streets of this famous emporium of the sunny South, would make no better show of back bone and ribs than did those captured from the rebel cavalry by our boys in the late expedition against Port Hudson.

By the way, I suppose croakers are asking why was Port Hudson not taken. Let them wait awhile and they will learn. In the mean time those unhappy beings, who seem to be blessed only with this "one talent" of making themselves odious to God and decent men, by whining over what they have no mind to understand, may kneel in their private devotions at the shrine of Diabolus and in secret places, and thank this father of them all, for another plausible occasion to vex the lovers of Freedom and the Union, and to worry the timid. The expedition was a success. Every thing designed by it was accomplished.

Our Maine boys in this trial, as in many others, proved their soldierly qualities. The 12th Maine led the advance, and after reaching a point eight miles from Baton Rouge, several of its companies were deployed as skirmishers. They did their work nobly, and were highly complimented for their dash and fearlessness and soldierly bearing. Immediately upon their return a new brigade was organized, and Col. Kimball assigned to the command.

Our brigade will be in motion again to-morrow. To what point we go, whom we see, and what we do, you will learn from other sources. I hope our commander's report will mean about the same as three short words, which those who never thumbed a Latin Lexicon, may remember to have read a few times in the spelling book, "*Veni, Vidi, Vici.*"

I notice in a Bangor paper a statement that half the men in the 12th are sick. That is a very great mistake. We have but seven men in the hospital, and I learn from Dr. Thompson, our excellent Surveon, that for some time there has not been one who is unable to come regularly to the table at meal time. In the last month the regiment has not lost a single man by death or discharge. In the recent movement against the enemy, they marched nearly sixty miles in heavy marching order, a part of the time skirmishing over wet, boggy land, through thick growth of briars and blackberry bushes. Sunday night, March 15th, they spent in a swamp with a powerful rain falling upon them until morning. Many stood all night in the water, while others stretched themselves upon the trunks of fallen rees, or sat down wherever some little knoll "reared its summit" an inch or two above the moistened level.

The whole jaunt, out and back again, kept them tramping for a week, and in all that time there were not many nights, to say the least, of "balmy sleep." But the point of the story lies here—just seven men and no more, belonging to the regiment, gave out by exhaustion. The surgeons say, and all agree with them, that the regiment, as a whole, was in a better state of health on the evening of its return to camp, than on the morning of departure.

The 12th has been in service since Nov. 15th, 1861. They were encamped at Ship Island several months. All the last summer months they spent in New Orleans, exposed to its dreaded miasma. They have lost in the whole time, 54 men by disease, and 9 by accident and in action. The health of the regiment has been remarkable, it is true; but it shows that men may go out to war for their country, and face dangers, and undergo hardships, and yet by care, be a long remove from certain death, or a ruined constitution. There are men in this regiment more robust in body—more resolute in principle and action—better disciplined in mind and more suitably qualified to work their way and succeed in life by the drill and exercise and experience they have had in the army, than they would have been had they spent the last seventeen months in New England, in a time of peace, and under the most favorable circumstances you may please to think possible. There are good christian men here, and noble, nigh minded boys who are now none the worse, morally or spiritually, for the trials they have met. May God bless them forever, and bless all who pray for them and write them words of cheer. Let me ask all who have friends in the army to do them one kindness, and that is, do not write to them when a "fit of the blues" is on you. Write as though you were happy at home and full of courage. God will bless you if you do so. The men will thank you a thousand times, and you will prove yourselves to be the friends of your country.

Horace L. Bray.

Military Appointments. The following military appointments were made by Governor Coburn on Thursday last:

First Cavalry Regiment. 2d Lieutenant Oseo H. Ellis, Lincoln, 1st Lieutenant company E; 1st Sergeant Mark Neville, Littleton, 2d Lieutenant company E.

First Heavy Artillery. 1st Lieutenant Frederic C. Howes, Orland, Captain, company G; 2d Lieutenant Emery S. Wardwell, Bucksport, 1st Lieutenant company G; 1st Sergeant James A. Godfrey, Ellsworth, 2d Lieutenant, company G.

Fifth Regiment. Captain Aaron S. Daggett, Greene, Major; Doctor Melville H. Manson, Limington, Assist

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The Record of the War.

Preparation for the Attack on Charleston---Landing of Federal Troops on Cole's Island.

NEW YORK, April 7. The Hilton Head correspondent of the *Tribune*, under date March 31st, states rough weather is now the only obstacle to the immediate consummation of the aggressive plans of General Hunter and Admiral Du Pont. We confidently look for the sailing of the last of the iron-clads remaining in port and the fleet of transports for the point of attack in the course of the next three days at farthest.

The Admiral will have the Wabash here, and personally direct the movements of the iron-clads from the Ironsides.

The correspondent of the *Herald* writing from Cole's Island, S. C. nine miles from Charleston, 28th ult., states that the 100th New York regiment has landed and taken possession of that Island, which is at the confluence of Stono and Folly rivers, and connected with James Island by a causeway. On the 28th, a scouting party went towards Charleston, obtaining excellent views of the rebel forts, batteries and forces. James Island is heavily fortified.

Federal Success in Tennessee---The Yazoo Pass Expedition.

MURFREESBORO,' Tenn., April 6, 1863.

To Major General Halleck, General-in-Chief:

Gen. Stanley has returned from his scout bringing in some 40 or 50 prisoners and 300 serviceable horses and mules. He drove Morgan's cavalry from the Peninsula, whipping them from their strong hold, Snow's Hill, north of Smithville, and but for their precipitate retreat and the difficult nature of the country would have had a force in their rear and captured their artillery and animals. The enemy left quite a number of dead, and fled toward McMinneville, losing many horses, saddles and guns.

(Signed) W. S. ROSECRANS, Major General.

CINCINNATI, April 7. Dispatches from Murfreesboro' give the following account of the fight near Snowhill on the 2d inst.

Gen. Stanley, with 2000 cavalry and Colonel Matthews's Infantry brigade, started to capture Morgan's and Wheaton's 8th regiment of infantry and cavalry at Snowhill. Beyond Auburn they drove in the rebel picket. The 7th Pennsylvania Cavalry turned the rebel right, while Muntyz and Patmon's cavalry brigade, with Newell's battery, moved up in front. The enemy fled. The enemy's pickets were then encountered west of Liberty, and a considerable force of rebels were posted on the bluffs on the opposite side of Smith's ford. They resisted and were driven back, and formed again on Dry Fork. From this point they were again driven. The rebels then formed a third and stronger line on Snowhill. The 2d and 4th Ohio cavalry were sent to the enemy's rear. They charged with sabres in hand and broke the line of the rebels, when the fight ended in the flight of the enemy. The rebel loss was from 15 to 20 killed, a number wounded and 60 prisoners. Gen. Stanley also captured 30 horses and mules, and a quantity of bacon and wheat, and destroyed considerable forage. The position of the rebels defeated Gen. Stanley's endeavor to surround them. Our loss was one private killed and two slightly wounded.

Gen. Stanley returned to Murfreesboro' by way of Lebanon, capturing six prisoners at the latter point.

A special dispatch from Helena, dated the 3d inst., says that advices from Gen. Quimby's expedition, to the 30th ult., state that no progress had been made in the reduction of Fort Pemberton. Our forces were still in front of the enemy, and there had been considerable skirmishing between the pickets on shore. The rebels were improving the time by greatly strengthening their works. They had received and mounted more heavy guns, and are well supplied with ammunition. It is the opinion of well informed officers that our gunboats will not succeed in taking the place.

From New Orleans---Successful Expedition to Ponchatoula and Pass Manchac.

NEW YORK, April 7th. The steamer Eastern Queen, from New Orleans 39th ult.

An expedition to Ponchatoula and Pass Manchac was completely successful. The troops consisted of the 6th Michigan, a battalion of the 165th New York and parts of the 177th New York and 24th Maine regiments, with two pieces of artillery manned by men from the 9th Connecticut. The gunboat Barataria and the yacht Corypheus accompanied them. Ponchatoula was occupied after some skirmishing with the rebel cav lry, 300 strong, and the railroad bridge, two miles beyond, was destroyed after the rebels had been driven from it by a detachment of the 6th Michigan. The bridge was 500 feet long. A large amount of flour, tobacco and other stores fell into our hands. Our forces occupy Ponchatoula, Springfield and Pass Manchac, and the rebel cavalry is said to be so hedged in that escape is difficult. Three cotton laden schooners were captured near Ponchatoula.

Important from North Carolina---Critical Position of Gen. Foster.

NEW YORK, April 8th. The *Post* learns that on 4th inst., Gen. Foster was at Little Washington with a brigade, a regiment of North Carolina troops and some other troops, and were virtually surrounded by rebels, who have erected batteries on the river between Newbern and Little Washington, which the naval force of wooden gunboats are unable to pass.

It was understood that a battle had taken place between Foster and and the rebels, but nothing definite was known. Heavy firing was heard lasting from Wednesday night to Friday night, evidently from the rebel batteries. Gen. Foster's means of defence are deemed ample, having a fort and entrenchments with sufficient ammunition and provisions.

Large reinforcements are in transports below the batteries unable to reach Foster for want of some naval force competent to take them.

It is reported that Gen. Foster sent to Fortress Monroe some time since for naval reinforcements, and expected to have troops sent him from Suffolk.

Later from New Orleans---Capture of a Gunboat by the Rebels.

The steamship Columbia, from New Orleans 1st inst., via Havana 4th, has arrived.

The gunboat Diana had been captured by the rebels at Pattersonville, La. Capt. Peterson was killed; Lieut. Allen, of Gen. Weitzel's staff, wounded and taken prisoner; master's mate Dolliver, killed; boatswain's mate Mumford, killed; Capt. Jewett of the 168th N. Y., wounded; Lt. Hale of the Diana, wounded; Lieut. Francis of the 12th Connecticut, mortally wounded, and several privates killed and wounded. Ninety-nine of our men were paroled by the rebels.

Operations in Florida---Pilatka Captured and Jacksonville Burnt.

NEW PORK, April 8th. Advices from Hilton Head note the capture and shelling of Pilatka, Fla., by the negro brigade; also the capture of a rebel Lieut. and part of a rebel company, and the evacuation and burning of Jacksonville. Some fifty Union families of Jacksonville returned to Hilton Head with the negro brigade. The evacuation of this point was ordered by General Hunter.

The Advance on Charleston---Landing of Troops on James Island.

WASHINGTON, April 7th. Official information lately reached the War Department that the movement against Charleston had been initiated by the Landing of a small Federal force near the foot of James Island.

Private letters have been received to-night from Commander John Rogers, second in command under Admiral Du Pont, and also from Gen. Hunter to his relatives dated Friday last, fully corroborating the rebel accounts of the landing of our forces on St. John's Island and the withdrawal of the enemy's pickets.

Rebel Apprehensions of the Attack on Charleston.

NEW YORK, April 9th. The Purser of the steamer Fah Kee states that the attack on Charleston was to have commenced on Tuesday.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, April 8th. The Richmond *Sentinel* of the 7th has the following significant paragraphs:

"Yesterday morning eight Monitors and iron-clads were off the bar at Charleston. The brief but significant telegram, which was received early in the day and published elsewhere, tells that the long expected collision has probably come off ere this The storm so long prepared for Charleston has burst at last. We shall publish the results as we learn them. We await the issue with buoyant hope, but not without the solicitude due to the important struggle. May heaven shield Charleston from the enemy's rage."

Our Iron Clad Fleet Across Charleston Bar.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, April 9. The Richmond *Whig* of the 8th inst., has the following in reference to the situation of Charleston:

All thoughts are now centered upon Charleston. Official intelligence was made public early yesterday morning that the enemy's iron-clad fleet attempted to cross the bar and failed, but later in the day it was announced that the gunboats and transports had succeeded in crossing and were at anchor. Our iron-clads lay between the forts awaiting the attack. Further intelligence is looked for with eager anxiety.

The Yankees have made no secret of their vast preparations for an attack on Charleston, and we may well anticipate a desperate conflict.

The Attack on Charleston---First Day's Bombardment of Fort Sumter.

WASHINGTON, 12. The steamer Flambeau arrived here this afternoon with Lieut. Commander Rhind, as bearer of despatches from Admiral Du Pont to the Government.

The reports from the several Commanders had not been received up to the time of the departure of the Flambeau, viz: Wednesday night.

From other than official sources it is ascertained that the vessels composing the fleet advanced up toward Charleston, on the 7th, in the following order:

Weehawken, Captain John Rogers, Passaic, Capt. Drayton, Montauk, Capt. Worden, Patapsco, Capt. Ammen; New Ironsides, the flag-ship Commander Turner, with Admiral Dupont and staff on board; next followed the Catskill, Capt. Rogers, Nautucket, Capt. Fairfax, Nahant, Capt. Downes and Keokuk, Capt. Rhind.

In this manner they proceeded up the main channel, arriving to within 1700 yards of the main forts. The Ironsides became unmanageable, owing to the tide and the narrowness of the channel, and she was therefore obliged to drop anchor to prevent drifting ashore. Owing to these circumstances, she signalled her consorts to disregard her motions. The remainder of the squadron continued on its course, and soon came within easy range of the rebel fire from all points.

The obstructions of the channel from Fort Sumter to Moultrie interfered with the progress of our ships. In consequence of this, and the position of the Ironsides, as above stated, the plan of operations for battle was deranged, and space for maneuvering being only from 500 to 1000 yards, the vessels were obliged to prepare to at once engage the forts and adjacent batteries.

Signal had been made for action at half-past three, P. M., by the Ironsides, but the rebels had previously opened fire upon our leading vessels. The contest is represented as in the highest degree exciting, presenting a fearful scene of fire belching from all points on land and water, with a continuous roar of cannon.

In the course of 30 or 40 minutes the Keokuk was in a sinking condition, and was obliged to withdraw from the fire and seek an anchorage below range of the enemy's guns.

In a few minutes afterwards all the vessels withdrew from the signal of the flagship, it being deemed impracticable to continue any further hostilities.

The Keokuk was within 500 or 600 yards of Fort Sumter, and was completely riddled. She was struck from all the batteries within a range, at least 90 times in 30 minutes. The shot was from a rifled cannon of the heaviest calibre. Capt. Rhind her commander, received a contusion in the leg from a flying fragment of the vessel, which only slightly lamed him. Twelve of the men were wounded, together with Acting Ensign Mackentosh, who had charge of one of the guns. The injuries are supposed to be fatal. The next morning finding it impossible to save the vessel, Capt Rhind called a tug which took all his men on board. A few minutes thereafter the Keokuk sunk.

Wednesday the squadron remained at anchor in the main ship channel.

It is said the number of our men in our fleet was only about 110, with 30 guns, while they had it is supposed, 300 guns, the best in the world.

The damages to the vessels, excluding the Keokuk, are represented to be of such a character as will require but a short time for repairs. The casualties among our men were remarkably few, including one killed and three wounded on the Nahant. The advantage of our fleet being in possession of the main ship channel narrows the circuit of blockade two-thirds of former distance.

None of the batteries fired upon our vessels until the latter had reached the vicinity of the main forts.

FORTRESS MONROE, 12th. The Mary Sanford arrived at Morehead on Friday, from off Charleston, with information of the entire attack, which commenced at 3 o'clock and lasted 3 hours.

The Keokuk passed half a mile above Sumter, where she met with obstructions; at which time a terrific fire was kept up on both sides, when she received a shot that passed through her between wind and water, from which she sunk in eleven hours.

The Nahant was within 200 yards of Fort Sumter in the action, and received a shell at the junction of the turret with the deck, which prevented the turret from revolving, and rendering her useless for the time.

The Ironsides received over 50 shots, sustaining no damage further than starting a few bolts.

The rest of the fleet is uninjured and hauled off, the object of the reconnoisance being accomplished, which was to ascertain the localities of the obstructions.

Our entire loss was two killed and one wounded.

NEW YORK, 12th---Midnight. The following despatch has been received from a gentleman on board the steamer Mary Sanford:

"We passed through the fleet off Charleston on Thursday the 9th, at 10 A. M. The weather was clear and pleasant.

The Monitors were ranged along the beach, off Cummings' Point, all in good order.

We were boarded by one of the pilots of the expedition, who stated that the Ironsides and Monitors attacked Fort Sumter on Tuesday the 7th, and passed some distance above the Fort, receiving some 200 shots.

A pointed shot of English manufacture, penetrated the iron-clad Whitney Battery Keokuk, and she sunk in 12 hours afterwards near the beach.

The other iron-clads passed through the shower of shot and shell uninjured, or with but trifling damage.

As regards the future movements the reports are conflicting.

An officer from the James Adger, who previously boarded us, stated that the engagement would be renewed about one P. M, and added that the Admiral expressed his belief of success.

No torpedoes are reported to have been exploded.

We left the fleet at noon, and when about twenty-five miles north, heard heavy firing.

Despatches received via Richmond from rebel sources state that during the bombardment one boy was killed in Fort Sumter and five men badly wounded. One gun was dismounted in Fort Moultrie and one man wounded.

Battle at Franklin Tenn.---Van Dorn Whipped by Gen. Granger.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 10. Van Dorn's whole force attacked Gen. Granger to-day at Franklin. After severe fighting for two hours the rebels retreated, leaving their dead on the field. The casualties on either side are not yet known.

Gen. Foster still Surrounded at Washington, N. C.

FORTRESS MONROE, 12th. The R. S. Spaulding arrived to-day from Morehead City yesterday.

No communication has been received at Newbern from General Foster since Wednesday night.

Seven thousand troops from Newbern attempted to reach General Foster, but were driven back with the loss of fifty men.

The last accounts from General Foster state that the rebels had sent in three flags of truce for him to surrender Washington. Foster's reply to the last was to send no more flags, if they did he would capture them, and if they wanted Washington to come and take it.

The Battle at Franklin---Van Don Badly Defeated.

MURFREESBORO, Tenn., 11.

Major Gen. Halleck Commander-in-Chief:

"The following despatch was received from General Granger on the 10th:

Van Dorn made his promised attack to-day at 1 o'clock directly on the front and on the town. The infantry regiments on guard in the town, with cavalry pickets, held him at bay until their ammunition was exhausted. The dense smoke and atmosphere favored their operations, enabling them to approach very near without our being able to observe them. Our seige guns and light batteries opened upon them with murderous effect, literally strewing the ground with men and horses.

I had halted Gen. Stanley four miles out off the Murfreesboro road. He at once crossed his force over at Height's Mills, vigorously attacking Gen. Forrest's division, moving down on the Lewisburg Turnpike, capturing six pieces of artillery and some 200 prisoners, but owing to the unfavorable nature of the country, he was unable to hold them, being attacked by superior numbers, outflanked and nearly surrounded.

Our loss in killed and wounded and prisoners is less than 100, while the enemy's cannot be less than three times that number. They were repulsed on all sides and driven until the darkness prevented the pursuit. Capt. McIntire of the 4th regulars took a battery and prisoners, including favorite of 30 odd of the latter.

(Signed) G. GRANGER, Maj. Gen."

Return of the Yazoo Pass Expedition---Iron Clads to Run the Blockade at Vicksburg.

CHICAGO, 12. Special dispatches to the *Times* from Helena, Ark., say:

The entire Tallahatchie fleet, consisting of the divisions under Generals Ross and Quimby, and numerous gun and mortar boats, arrived here last night.

The expedition, which has been absent 43 days, left Fort Pemberton on Sunday.

CAIRO, 12th. Despatch boat New National arrived from Vicksburg, which place she left on Wednesday. She brings news that the iron clads Louisville, Mound City, Carondelet, Benton, Lafayette and two others are prepared to run the blockade. They were expected to execute the feat on Friday or Saturday night.

It was also said that transports with log and cotton bulkheads, had prepared to run past the batteries.

Foreign News.

SIX DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamer Baronia from Liverpool April 9th, arrived at New York on the 10th.

Great Britain.

Ship John A. Parker has been burnt by the Alabama.

Great riots took place at Stalebridge and Ashton among the cotton operatives. Many were arrested.

Lord Campbell in the House of Lords asked when the Southern Confederacy should be recognized as an independent government. The recognition would remove the last hope of the North from subjugating the South and would materially influence the Federals in coming to an arrangement with the Southerners.

Earl Russell said England could do nothing useful peaceably to attain a cessation of the war. The refusal of the French offer teaches us how such offers would only provoke a greater opposition. The North was as determined as ever, and England's recognition of the South at the present moment would be a most unfriendly act towards the North. We must wait and stand still, and not proceed to so base and unfriendly an act as the recognition of the South.

France.

The *Moniteur* denies that 12,000 men had been concentrated at Toulon for Mexico.

France congratulates herself on the favorable sentiment of Austria on the settlement of the Polish question.

Slidell denies that President Davis took the lead on the repudiation question. His name has been confounded with Reuben Davis.

The Polish Revolution.

The *Times* says that Polish intelligence leaves little room to doubt that the Polish struggle has ended, and the hope is held out that the Czar may seize upon this opportunity for the pacification of Poland by general measures.

Intelligence has been received that the insurgents are beaten everywhere. Langiewicz was taken prisoner to Cracow.

The insurgents lost 400 killed and 54 prisoners.

The Warsaw Revolutionary Committee resumes its functions because Langiewicz, prisoner, issued a proclamation calling on all the Poles to join the national army.

Langiewicz resigned the dictatorship.

Later news from Poland states that the Poles have won two engagements in which the Russian troops lost heavily. The Poles have been beaten in several other engagements.

THREE DAYS LATER.

The steamship Glasgow from Liverpool March 24th and Queenstown 25th, arrived at New York April 11th.

Great Britain.

In the House of Lords, Lord Strathelen called the attention to the expediency of recognizing the Confederates as a step towards peace in showing the North the hopelessness of the effort at conquest. Russel expressed an anxious desire to do anything in the interest of peace, but dissented from Stratheden's views and showed that the present position of the South was totally different from other countries, when recognition took place. War was still progressing with the utmost vigor, and a large portion of the Southern territory was still occupied by the North.

No doubt in former times, England had interfered in such cases, but it had ever been on behalf of the independence of freedom and the welfare of mankind. We should be sorry indeed of any interference which should bear another character, and hoped her intervention would always be on the side of liberty and the promotion of freedom. He trusted England might be able to continue her neutrality.

Mr. Bright presented a petition from the Union Emancipation Society of Manchester, calling attention to the construction of war vessels for the Confederates, asserting that forty vessels were building under pretense of being for China, and demanding of government watchfulness and interference.

There was considerable fluctuation to the Confederate loan. Prices on the 24th, varied from 3½ to 2 premium, closing at the latter figure.

LONDON, March 26. The rebel loan has declined. The seizure by Admiral Wilkes of the steamer Peterhoff, private merchant steamer, although not having a single contraband article in her cargo, the *Times* says, is to be submitted to Earl Russell to-day, and the result is regarded with great interest by the mercantile community, since it is said that Admiral Wilkes is thus dealing with all vessels on their way to Matamoras.

The avowed policy of Admiral Wilkes, it is stated, is to seize all vessels under analogous circumstances, without any question of right in the matter, since he can thus, owing to the period which must intervene before they can be released, prevent the possibility of supplies reaching the Confederates through Mexico.

The Polish Insurrection.

The Polish insurgents continue active, notwithstanding Langiewicz was held as a prisoner by the Austrians. There had been numerous engagements with various results.

The Revolutionary Committee had issued a proclamation for a vigorous prosecution of the movement.

FLAX RAISING. The Farmington *Chronicle* says everybody in that section is talking about raising flax. The country people don't mean to stand the huge price for cotton goods if they can help it. About next winter (says the *Chronicle*) all the old garrets will be ransacked in search of the long forgotten foot-wheel—its music will come into competition with that of the piano, and the young lady who cannot spin will find herself behind the fashions.

GOOD FOR THE CAUSE OF TEMPERANCE. The Richmond papers report common whisky there at $25 and a good article at $30 per gallon. A cotemporary thinks the time is near at hand when the suffering people of the South will be brought to "the sober second thaught."

☞ The 20th Maine Regiment has upwards of a hundred cases of sickness at the present time, chiefly of a type produced by vaccination. The vaccine was sent from the medical department at Washington, and every man on whom it was tried has the small pox by vaccination. There is nothing very alarming in the cases, though they are unpleasant and vexatious.

The Markets.

AUGUSTA PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WEEKLY.

Flour,	$8 00 to 10 50	Round Hog.	$5 00 to 6 00
Corn Meal,	1 25 to 1 37	Clear Salt Pork,	9 00 to 10 00
Rye Meal,	1 20 to 1 35	Mutton,	6 to 10
Wheat,	1 62 to 2 00	Hams,	12 to 14
Rye,	90 to 95	Chickens,	10 to 12
Corn,	1 10 to 1 15	Geese,	7 to 10
Barley,	1 15 1 20	Clover seed,	11 to 16
Beans.	2 25 to 2 75	Hungarass,	2 75 to 3 00
Oats,	58 to 65	Red Top,	75 to 80
Potatoes,	40 to 45	Hay,	8 00 to 10 00
Dried Apples,	6 to 8	Lime,	85 to 1 00
Cooking "	25 to 70	Fleece Wool,	70 to 75
Winter "	40 to 50	Pulled Wool,	70 to 75
Butter	18 to 20	Sheep Skins,	1 75 to 2 25
Cheese.	12 to 16	Hides,	7 to 8
Eggs,	14 to 16	Calf Skins,	15 to 16
Lard,	12 to 14	Lamb Skins,	1 50 to 2 00

BRIGHTON MARKET---April 9.

At market, 500 Beeves, 90 Stores, 2500 Sheep and Lamb, and 1200 Swine.

PRICES---*Market Beef*---Extra $9,00; first quality $8,50; second do., $7,50; third do. $6,00.

Working Oxen---None.

Milch Cows---$43 @ $46; common $19 @ $20.

Veal Calves---$7,00 @ $8,00.

Yearlings---$9,00 @ 10,50; two years old, $21 @ $22, three years old $23 @ $24.

Hides---8¼ @ 9c. *Calf Skins* 8 @ 9c. ℔ lb.

Tallow---Sales at 8c @ 8¼c ℔ lb.

Pelts---$3 50 @ 4 00.

Sheep and Lambs---$3,50 @ $4,00; extra 4,25, @ 5 50.

Spring Pigs---Wholesale, 5c; retail, 6 @ 7½c.

Beeves are sold by the head, at prices equal to the value per pound of the estimated weight of beef in the quarter, the same price, at a shrinkage from live weight, agreed on by the parties, varying from 2 to 3¼ ℔ cent.

Remarks---Market active and firm at the above quotations. Sheep and Lambs sell 25 cents per head lower than last week. Swine are a shade higher.

BOSTON MARKET....April 11.

Flour---The market is steady but quiet for Flour, and the sales have been at $5,50 @ $6,75 for Western superfine; $6,75 @ $7,25 for common extras; $7,50 @ $7,75 for medium do.; and $8,00 $10,50 for good and choice brands, including favorite St. Louis

CORN---Western mixed, 90 @ 93c, per bushel.

OATS---Western and Canada, 80 @ 82c ℔ bushel.

RYE---$1 10 ℔ bushel.

HAY---Sales of Eastern at $15½ @ $16.

WOOL---Fleece and pulled Wool. 80 @ 90 ℔ lb.

NEW YORK MARKET....April 13.

Flour---State and Western continues dull and unsettled; Superfine State $62.50 a $6,50; extra $6,40 a 7,10; choice, 7,05 a 7,15; round hoop Ohio $7,25 a 7,60; superfine Western 6,25 a 6,55; extra Western 7,00 a 7,15; Southern 10 cents lower---mixed to good $7,25 a $7,60; fancy and extra $7,75 a 10,00; Canada 10 a 20c better---common 6,70 a 7,00; extra $7,15 a $9,00.

Wheat opened dull and 1 a 2 cents lower---Chicago spring $1,38; Milwaukie club $1 @ $1 34; red winter western $1 45 @ $1,46; Canada club 1 10 @ $1 17.

Corn 1 a 3c lower---mixed western 82c @ 83c.

Barley---Sales at $1 50@ 1.55 per bushel.

Special Notices.

A COUGH, COLD, OR AN IRRITATED THROAT,

If allowed to progress, results in serious Pulmonary and Bronchial affections, oftentimes incurable.

BROWN'S BRONCHICAL TROCHES

reach *directly* the affected parts and give almost instant relief. In BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, and CATARRH they are beneficial. The good effects resulting from the use of the Troches, and their extended use, has caused them to be counterfeited. Be sure to guard against worthless imitations Obtain only the genuine Brown's Bronchial Troches which have *proved* their efficacy by a test of many years. Public Speakers and Singers should use the Troches. Military officers and soldiers, who over-tax the voice and are exposed to sudden changes, should have them. Sold everywhere at 25 cents per box. 3m6

HOW TO MAKE $5 A DAY,

When all other Efforts have failed.

HOOD & CO., 186 BROADWAY, New York, have just published **One Hundred Valuable Secrets,** worth from them any one, male or female, can easily make $5 a day, without capital, in any city or village. Every one should possess these Secrets, for they are worth $500 to any single or married person. Some of these Secrets have been sold for $20 each. One alone cost us $250 for the right to publish it. When you once own them you will never part with them for money. Several persons are now making $120 per month by these Secrets alone. By them any person may make money easily and rapidly. We send one Book of Secrets for 25 cents, two copies 40 cents, club of three for 50 cents, club of four 65 cents, club of five 75 cents, club of eight copies $1. Send Government money. 1y10

QUACKERY!

I earnestly caution all young men suffering from Nervous Debility, &c., against endangering their health by patronising any of the advertising quacks. You can fully recover by the methods used by the Advertiser, and by hundreds of others, and in no other way. Read a letter which I will send you if you send me a postpaid envelope bearing your address. Direct to EDWARD H. TRAVER,
Lock Box, Boston, Mass.
3m18

A CARD.

To the people of Winthrop and vicinity, I offer my grateful thanks for their kindness to me in consequence of the loss sustained by fire February 19th. MARY D. SHAW.
Winthrop, April 5d, 1863.

☞ See a woman in another column picking Sambuci Grapes, for Speer's Wine. It is an admirable article, used in hospitals, and by the first families in Paris, London and New York, in preference to old Port Wine. It is worth a trial, as it gives great satisfaction. 8tf

Married.

In Mount Vernon, April 9th, by Emery O. Bean, Esq., Sam' Whitney to Minerva S. Gallison.
In Bingham, by Rev. J. Robinson, Josiah A. Spofford to Phebe A. Taylor, both of B.
In Vassalboro,' Isaac T. Carvill to Jane F. Ricker of Lewiston.
In Freedom, Geo. W. Sabon to Sarah A. Harrington.
In Lincoln, Noah Hatch, Jr., to Sarah F. Wyman of Chester.
In Weathrox, J. P. Shattuck to Martha E. Lord.
In Farmington, Elphalet R. Weathern to Juanita T. Tufts.
In Bowdoin, James Small to Thankful S Strout.

Died.

In Monmouth, Dec. 19th, Abraham Brown, Esq, aged 79 yrs.
In Freedom, Feb. 13th, Amos Sylvester, aged 81 years.
At Great Falls, Md., march 21st, Irieus B Pottinghil of Leeds, member of Co. I, 2d Me. Regt., aged 23 years 5 months.
At Bennet Carre, La., March 14th, Roscoe, only son of Liberty and Hecthere Levitt of Pittsfield, a member of Co. C, 24th Me. Regt., aged 19 years 7 months.
In Gorham, Marshall M. Mosher, aged 25 years.
In Chesterville, William M Nichols, aged 18 years.
In Bangor, Maggie, wife of Henry Blanchard, aged 25 years.
In Madison, Lee D. Jones, aged about 50 years.
In Mercer, Jesse McLaughlin, aged 32 years.
In Orono, Caroline M. Johnson, aged 24 years.
In Glenburn, Stephen H. Davis, aged 35 years.
In Machias, Henry Albee, aged about 45 years.
In East Machias, Nathaniel Hoyt, aged 82 years.

HOFFMAN'S OPERA CONCERT!

Meonian Hall, Augusta,

ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, APRIL 15th.

Artists:

MADAME VARIAN, Prima Donna.
HENRY DRAPER, Baritone.
EDWARD HOFFMAN, Pianist.

☞ Tickets 25 cents. Doors open at 7 o'clock; commence at ½ to 8 o'clock. 1w18

INSTRUCTION IN MUSIC.

CARL KREBS

Has the honor to announce to the Ladies and Gentlemen of Augusta and vicinity, that he is prepared to give instruction on the PIANO, VIOLIN, GUITAR and other Musical Instruments. Particular attention paid to beginners. Instruction thorough.

Applications can be made at Stanwood's Bookstore, on Water street, Augusta. 3m18

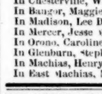
REMOVAL.

The undersigned has removed his Stock of Goods to the Store **One Door North of the Railroad Bridge,** recently occupied by BALLARD & CHASE, where may be found a general assortment of

Choice Groceries for Family Use,

at prices as low as can be purchased elsewhere.

Those who have furnished him heretofore with nice Butter and other articles of produce, will find a ready sale for them at his new stand. E. G. BROWN.
Augusta, April 14, 1863. 18tf



ISLAND NURSERY.

KENDALL'S MILLS, MAINE,

J. H. GILBRETH, Proprietor.

This Nursery contains a large and choice variety of Apple Trees, from the age of four to seven years, which have been grown on a cold, bleak island, on light, sandy soil, and consequently are hardy and have excellent roots.

We have received letters of commendation from many purchasers, (some of whom have bought large lots,) showing that the trees are hardy and have grown well, and we feel confident that they will do well in any locality.

REFERENCE:

David Pearson, Fairfield, James Andrews, Biddeford,
Hiram Dow, East Vassalboro', Cyrus W. Bates, Sumner,
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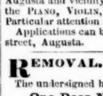
Thomas Ayer, West Waterville, C. G Taylor, Norridgewock,
Sumner Osborn, Clinton, J. Morse Monmouth.

Trees delivered at the Depot when ordered.

☞ We also have GRAPE VINES and CHERRY TREES.

Send for a Circular 8w18



TREES, SHRUBS, AND FLOWERS.

WILLIAM S. WARD'S Trees are very fine this Spring. Out of nearly one thousand trees sold last Spring, there were but two reported dead in September.

Splendid HARD ROSES and SHRUBBERY, $5 per dozen: 50 varieties of Bedding Plants, packed to travel any distance, $5; 12 Verbena varieties, $1; Verbena, (Gem of the West) fragrant as a rose, 25 cents; 12 new varieties of Verbenas, importation of 1863, $2; 12 fine varieties of Apple Trees, $3; Pear Trees from 50 cents to $3.

Ornamental Gardening done and Graperies built on the most economical principles.

Address WILLIAM S. WARD, Nurseryman, Portland, Me. 6w18

FRUIT TREES

AND GRAPE VINES.

To avoid the disappointments which attend planting trees and vines grown in other States, and the impositions of unscrupulous venders who urge their worthless trash upon inexperienced planters---buy at the

SACO NURSERIES,

on the spot where they are grown.

APPLES and PEARS---Standard and Dwarf.

CURRANTS---including the new French varieties of extraordinary size and beauty

RASPBERRIES and GOOSEBERRIES.

GRAPE VINES---of all the most desirable sorts. Several hundred of the hardiest varieties of Hybrid Perpetual.

ROSES, also MOSS ROSES, in twenty-five Hardy sorts.

PRAIRIE ROSES, &c

ORNAMENTAL TREES and SHRUBS.

☞ Address orders early to S. L. GOODALE,
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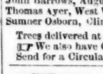
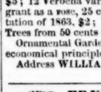


FOR SALE.

The residence of the late JOHN HODGDON in Hallowell, consisting of a Cottage House, finished throughout with every convenience---barn connected, also workshop, carriage house, wood shed, and blacksmiter house.

The farm consists of about 26 acres of land, under a high state of cultivation, with 50 young fruit trees. Also 30 acres of woodland 1½ miles from the house, easy of access. Together with all the farming utensils and house furniture

The property is very desirable for a sea-faring man, being situated convenient for either steamboat or railroad travel, and one of the finest situations on the Kennebec river, commanding a fine view of the river, the city of Hallowell, and of the State House, United States Arsenal, and all the public buildings at Augusta. The above property will be sold on favorable terms on application to D. M. HODGDON, Boston,
A. D. KNIGHT, Hallowell.
Hallowell, April 8, 1863. 18tf



FARM AND STOCK FOR SALE.

The HEBRON LUCE FARM in Winthrop, two miles from the Village, on the road to Readfield, of about 75 acres. It has a very *heavy growth of wood*, and one of the best producing farms in town.

Also the Stock and Farming Tools. For further particulars inqure of JERE CURRIER near the premises.
Winthrop, April, 1863. 18tf

THOROUGH BRED STOCK

FOR SALE.

I will sell my Thorough bred JERSEY or ALDERNEY Bull Dairy Boy, three years old, out of a very choice Imported cow; price $75 if sold within fifteen days

Also a number of SOUTH DOWN BUCKS; price from $10 to $15.

The Bull may be seen on the Grant Farm in Farmingdale. For particulars inquire of S. B. McCAUSLAND,
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Poetry.

"OUR ROGER."

BY CAROLINE A. MASON.

They call for "able-bodied men;"
Now there's our Roger, strong and stout;
He'd beat his comrades out and out
In feats of strength and skill—what then?

What then?—why only this: you see
He's made of just that sort of stuff
They want on battle-fields; enough!
What choice was left for him and me?

So, when he asked me yesterweek,
"Your blessing, mother?"—did I heed
The great sob at my heart, or need
Another word that he should speak?

Should I sit down and mope and croon,
And hug my selfishness and cry
"Not *him* my first born?"—no, not I!
Thank Heaven, I pipe a nobler tune.

And yet I love him like my life,
This stalwart handsome lad of mine!
I warrant me, he'll take the shine
Off half who follow drum and fife!

Now God forgive me, how I prate!
Ah, but the *mother* will leap out
Whatever folds we wrap about
Our foolish hearts, or soon or late.

No doubt 'tis weakness—mother-lip
Extolling its own flesh and blood;
A trick of weakly womanhood
That we should scourge with thong and whip.

No doubt—and yet I should not dare
Lay an unloved, cheap offering
Upon my country's shrine, nor bring
Aught but was noble, sweet and fair.

And so I bring my boy,—too glad
That he is worthy, and that I,
Who bore him once in agony,
Such glorious recompense have had.

Take him, my country! he is true
And brave and good; his deeds shall tell
More than my foolish words—'tis well!
God's love be with the lad and you.

God's love and care—and when he comes
Back from the war, and through the street
The crazy people flock to meet
My hero, with great shouts, and drums,

And silver trumpets braying loud,
And silken banners, starry gay,
'Twill be to me no prouder day
Than this; nay, nay, nor half so proud.

And if—God help me—if, intend,
They flash this word from some red field;
"His brave, sweet soul that would not yield,
Leaped upward and they wrote him *dead*,"

I'll turn my white face to the wall,
And bear my grief as best I may
For Roger's sake, and only say,
"He knoweth best who knoweth all."

And when the neighbors come to weep,
Saying, "Alas, the bitter blow!"
I'll answer, nay, dear friends, not so,
Better my Roger's hero-sleep,

And nobler far such lot, than his
Who dare not strike with heart and hand
For Freedom and dear Fatherland,
Where death's dark missiles crash and whiz.

And Roger's mother has no tear
So bitter as her tears would be
If, from the Battles of the Free,
Her son shrank back with craven fear.

Our Story-Teller.

GOLD AND DROSS.

A STORY FOR YOUNG LADIES.

Reader, have you ever heard of Halliday Hall? Very likely not. And yet, reader, it is one of the - may I say jolliest, without being considered fast?—well, yes, I *will* say jolliest old places in England; a big, rambling building with no end of rooms, and not a bad, nor a dingy, nor a stuffy room among them, which is no small thing to say of any house, an old one especially.

It has a terrace that commands the finest view in the county, and a conservatory that beats those at Kew; and last year its Victoria Regias were larger and better grown altogether than any in the kingdom. Sir John Maurice is the owner of it. It has been in the family for years—centuries—and a capital old family, they were, are, and will be, if there's any truth in the French proverb which says, *Bon sang ne peut mentir*.

Sir John Maurice may be somewhere about sixty; he stands six feet three without his boots, he is stoutish, erect as he was at five and twenty; with thick curling hair, quite white; a splendid face, a trifle weather-beaten; dark sparkling eyes, and not a tooth missing.

He is up at five in the summer, six in winter; walks two miles before breakfast to bathe in the open sea all the year round; sleeps with his window open from January to December; rides to the foxhounds every time they go out and, notwithstanding his size, his age, and his weight, he and his horse Goliath are among the first in at the death. At great hunting dinners at Halliday Hall or elsewhere he can drink more wine—habitually he is rather abstemious in the matter of drinking—than any man in the county; and when for certain good reasons best known to themselves, most of the guests eschew the drawing-room, or would do well to do so, he makes his appearance among the ladies as genial, as well-bred, as charming, as perfect a gentleman as he showed himself at breakfast in the morning.

A dear, fresh, wholesome old man; the best landlord, the best friend, the best father—had been the best husband;—in short, the best gentleman to be met with anywhere in Britain or out of it.

The story of his marriage may stand as an example of what he was. At five-and-twenty he became attached to a beautiful girl with a large fortune. He had not yet proposed, was in no way bound to her, when one day her father decamped, leaving wife, daughter and creditors to shift as they best might; and at the same time the girl was attacked with confluent small-pox, which, the doctors confessed, could scarcely fail to disfigure her for life. Hardly was her life spared, when Sir John waited on her mother, disregarded all warnings as to infection, and proposed for her; and, as soon as matters could be arranged after her recovery, they were married. Eventually Lady Maurice nearly recovered her good looks, and was as excellent a wife as he was a husband. After some years she bore him a son, and, when they neither of them were very young, a daughter—Rosamond, the heroine of my story, —not long after which she died.

The first ball that had been given at Halliday Hall after Lady Maurice's death took place on the occasion of Rosy's eighteenth birthday.

Young as she was, she was already opening out into a splendid specimen of womankind, tall and full and fair, with masses of nut-brown hair, and large violet eyes that looked at you steadily from under their deep white lids.

This was her first regular ball. How she enjoyed it, I don't know; but this I can state, that on entering her bed-room, when it was over, she sat down, hid her face in her hands, and began to cry, sobbing, gasping, as only young people and strong men cry, and indulged—I use the word advisedly—in this exercise for about half an hour without interruption. Then she got up, undressed hurriedly, and went to bed.

Next morning, after breakfast she came down late, when she knew her father would be gone to pay his matutinal visit to the stable. She went for her usual stroll in the gardens. It was a lovely day, though well on in September, and the beds were still bright with perpetual roses, calceolarias, verbenas and geraniums.

But she passed them all by, and wandering off to one of the shadiest walks, began pacing up and down with an almost feverish rapidity.

Suddenly, as she came to the end and turned, she saw a figure entering the alley at the farther extremity. Her first impulse was to dash in among the shrubs and escape; but a moment's reflection induced her to continue her course, though at a greatly slackened pace.

Meanwhile from the other end the figure advanced, meeting her.

A tall, slight, though firmly-built man, of about six-and-thirty; not in the least handsome, but with a grave, striking face, especially about the upper part, where a singularly earnest and piercing dark gray eye looked out from under a firm, broad, massive brow.

At last they met.

"I have been looking for you, Rosy," the newcomer said. "Child, how cold your hand is!" but he did not hold it in his to warm it, as he would have done yesterday, nor was his look or his voice the same.

For some seconds they walked side by side in silence.

"Rosy," he said at last, "I want to speak to you. Shall I say what I have to say now and here?"

She merely bowed assent.

"Rosy, I fear I have been mistaken in you, that you have been mistaken in yourself, and that we are both only beginning to find it out."

"Oh, Stephen!"

"If it is so we had better understand the truth at once. Rosy, I would rather die than give you up if I thought you loved me. But also I would rather die ten thousand deaths than marry you, if I knew you did not—if I thought you only fulfilled our engagement from a mistaken sense of duty, to save me and your father pain. You are very young Rosy, a mere child compared with me. I know the world, and women, and my own heart; and I chose you deliberately, and with a full knowledge of what I was doing, and because I knew I could never love any other woman with the same love I had for you. Your case was different. It may have been that my devotion awakened in your perfectly inexperienced nature a feeling that you might easily mistake for love, but that was not love, as would be proved on the first occasion. I was very angry last night, Rosy. When I left you, I rushed out, walked off to the beech, and there I wandered about till daylight. I saw the sun rise, and the golden little waves ripple in with the tide, and the white cliffs become ruddy as the day came in. And in the face of all that eternal glory and strength and tranquility, I felt the folly and the impotence of my anger, the vanity of struggling against what was to be; and by degrees I came to see things in their true light, and to say to myself what I have just said to you, Rosy, that man will never love you as I love you; it is not in him, and he is not worthy of you. I tell you so not because I am jealous of him, but because I know it of a truth. Nevertheless, if you prefer him to me, and that I stand in the way of what you consider your happiness, Rosy—let me say *my* Rosy, if it be for the last time—I give you back your freedom."

"Stephen, oh, dear Stephen, how good you are to me! how little I deserve it! But indeed, indeed you only do me justice in thinking I have not been deceiving you. It was not till last night that I really knew that I—I preferred Mr. Wilbraham. Oh, can you forgive me; can you bear it? Oh, what a change!—what a heart-break!—for papa, for everybody! I wish I had never seen Mr. Wilbraham. But I can't help it Stephen; you believe that?"

"Yes, Rosy; you never wilfully deceived me in your life, and I believe you have not yielded to this feeling without many struggles. Let them be over now. Shall *I* tell your father?"

"Will you? Oh, it will save me so much! But I have no right to save myself. No dear Stephen, I will do it! What a wretch I am?—and you, what can I call you?"

"Your friend I shall always be, Rosy. Dear child, dear darling love of my heart! it seems like such a terrible nightmare to think that you are mine no longer! To think—after the delicious months of peaceful, happy, holy love, of tranquil security I have enjoyed—that all is swept away in an instant, and that I am to go forth alone, tossed hither and thither over the world's tide, leaving to another all that I deemed so wholly my own. And I do not feel the worst or the fullest of it yet! Oh, my Rosy, it is *killing!* I thought I had made up my mind to bear it, but when I see you——"

He passed his hand rapidly across his eyes, and Rosy sobbed aloud.

"Of course," he went on after a pause, "I can't stay here and see it. To-morrow I shall go to town to wind up different matters, and in a week at farthest I shall be across the water."

"Where do you go, Stephen?"

"Heaven knows! if it could be 'anywhere, anywhere out of the world,' it would be all the better."

"You'll bid papa good-bye?"

"Yes, yes, of course. I'll come to-morrow morning; you'll tell him in the meantime. And now, Rosy, best and only beloved of women, may God bless and protect you, and make you as happy with your new choice as I once fancied you would be with me! One kiss, Rosy—the last of all the hundreds I have, in undoubting security, taken. Farewell!"

He strained her to his breast with a long and convulsive embrace, and without another word departed.

She stood some time on the spot where he had left her, bewildered by the suddenness of the scene, by the novelty of her position. For an instant her impulse was to call him back. Was it thus that was to end forever an engagement she had, not many months back, willingly entered into with this man she had almost from her childhood, esteemed above all others—the dearest friend of her absent brother, the man whom her father regarded as another son? How he loved her!—how happy they had been together! Could it be that a stranger whose very name was unknown to her a month ago, could have thus changed her heart, broken her faith, made her untrue to all the associations of her life? But it was so. *L'amour ne se commande pas.* Alas!

Two months were gone by, and Rosy Maurice was engaged to Mr. Wilbraham.

The shock to her father of her rupture with Stephen Moreland, utterly unexpected as it was, had been even greater than she had expected: for he had set his heart on the match, which, in every point, except, perhaps, the difference of age, was an altogether unexceptionable one. But he was too sensible a man and too tender a father to fight long against the inevitable, and he at last yielded an unwilling consent to the new engagement, but with the proviso that a year should elapse before it was ratified.

"It will take longer than that to reconcile me to it." Sir John said. I don't like the fellow—I haven't faith in him. He'd no business to make love to you when he knew, as every-body did, that you were engaged to another man. I say nothing about *you*, Rosy; it'll take me many a year to get over *that*."

But now the old man, if not satisfied, was to a certain degree resigned to the match. He tried, for Rosy's sake to like his future son-in-law, and as, in point of appearance, manners, family and fortune, there was no fault to be found with him, he resolved to make the best of what he could not prevent.

Of course the lovers were happy; that it is hardly necessary to state. George Wilbraham was the very man to be the *beau ideal* of eighteen. Not one girl in a hundred is in the least to be depended on in her judgemnt of a man till she is some way out of her teens. A beauty-man, who rides and dances well, and who knows it, who is tolerably agreeable, and who has the manners of a gentleman, is safe to captivate the hearts, that is to say, to make a very strong (though perhaps by no means indelible) impression on the surface of the hearts of nineteen girls in twenty, before they have put ten and ten years together; not to talk of those who are susceptible to similar attractions for many years later.

And yet young love is so sweet and pure and natural a thing that it is very hard to impugn it. Shall we despise spring's blossoms because they are not summer's fruit? Shall we frown on the gambols of your white lambs because they are not staid sober sheep, who have been shorn so often that they know the ways of men and mistrust them?

They rode together, did our lovers; they drove together; they sang together in long winter evenings, sadly enough, and not always quite in tune; but with hearts in harmony, what did that signify? and George presented Rosy with the smallest and most hideous Skye terrier that could be had for love or money—the dog fancier had had him from a "party" who had taken a month in compassing the stealing of him; and though Rosy hated Skye terriers and all ugly things, however costly, she got up a spurious affection for the creature, and tried to believe that in a big head, and a thin neck, and a long lean body, lay the true line of beauty.

Were there ever times when Rosy remembered that with Stephen the conversation never used to flag, as it did now and then at present? that Stephen had no dread or horror of a wet day, and no sense of *ennui* under it? that he never was annoyed at trifles, and that, on the whole, though, more than ten years older than George, his views of things in general were infinitely fresher and brighter, and more hopeful than those of that handsome young man?

I cannot say; but I know what Sir John thought on the subject.

However, it was Rosy, and not Sir John, who was to marry George, so perhaps it was not of so much consequence.

Rosy and her lover were riding one day among the lanes in the neighborhood of Halliday Hall. In the hedge some singularly rich and and beautiful clusters of holly-berries attracted Rosy's notice, and she expressed a wish to have them. George dismounted, gathered some sprays—not without maledictions on the prickles—and having presented them to his lady-love, prepared to remount.

But the animal he rode, a nervous, fidgety, chestnut mare, taking some freak into her pretty head, set herself immediately in opposition to such a proceeding. No sooner did the master's foot approach the stirrup than she wheeled rapidly round, repeating the action two or three times in succession. A dark fury passed over the young man's face, and gathering up the reins tightly, and swearing a fierce oath between his teeth, he began kicking the mare's ribs till each blow sounded with the dull thud of a pickaxe in an old plastered wall.

"Oh, George, George?" Rosy exclaimed, in the distress of her tender heart; "oh, don't kick her so; it'll only make her ten times worse, and you may hurt her dreadfully. Oh, don't I beseech you, George!" as a yet heavier kick resounded on the side of the plunging, terrified creature, whose mouth was also bleeding from the pressure of the sharp bit.

With an oath George exclaimed, savagely, I'll teach her to play these tricks!" and kick, kick, kick went his double-souled boot into the mare's ribs again.

Rosy turned away her horse's head and rode homewards. In a few minutes she heard the plunging and panting of the mare behind her, but she continued her course without looking round. In another moment George was by her side.

He glanced at her furtively, and saw the tears wet upon her cheek. This, far from touching, annoyed him; but he knew not how to commence conversation. He was half angry, half ashamed, and wished to appear indifferent.

"I don't think she'll try that game again," he said. "I was determined not to give in."

"Not even when I entreated you," Rosy said, without turning her head.

"My dear Rosy, what can women know about managing horses? Besides, there's nothing like determination; it's no use to let yourself to be bullied by man or beast. I never do, and I never will."

They rode home in silence. There was no singing that evening, and the hours passed heavily; everybody was glad when bed-time came.

But the next day George brought Rosy a bunch of roses that might vie with those of June, and made some sweet and quite original speeches to her about their being less fresh, less lovely than *his* Rose; and so they kissed and made friends, and all was sunshine again.

Stephen had once given Rosy some trifling offence. He had not made her any peace-offering; but he had begged her pardon, acknowledged himself in the wrong, and promised never to repeat the error.

At Halliday Hall it had been the custom from time immemorial to greet Christmas in most hearty fashion. For some years after Lady Maurice's death the habit had been discontinued; but as his children grew up, Sir John had resumed it, and this year a large party had been invited to stay in the house.

One morning Mr. Wilbraham strolled into Rosy's *sanctum*, where she always contrived, even when the house was full, to have a couple of hours to himself after breakfast.

He sat down by the fire, and began pulling her dog's ears, a resource he not unfrequently indulged in when out of humor or when conversation was slack.

"I say, Rosy, a deuced annoying thing has happened to me this morning."

"Dear George, what?" Rosy said, all sympathy.

"I've opened a letter that was not intended for me. It was for Wilmingham; but the address was badly written, so they brought it to me, and though of course I didn't read it, I see it's from a woman."

"Well, but you told him, of course, how the thing was?"

"No, I didn't."

"You did not! What have you done with the letter?"

"Locked it up."

"Oh, George, why did you not give it to him at once, telling him of the mistake? Even if he had been a little annoyed, he'd have seen it was not your fault.

"I don't know. He's a dreadful stiff, punctilious fellow."

"Rosy was struck dumb. To keep a letter addressed to another man, and probably a letter of deep and delicate significance to him, through fear of provoking his displeasure by frankly owning the accident that had thrown it into the wrong hands.

When she spoke again, both her face and her voice were altered.

"George, the longer you wait to give the letter, the worse by a great deal it will be."

He made no reply, but continued to pull Fairy's ears till she winced and turned her round brown eyes on him pitcously.

"George."

"Well?"

"Take the letter, there's a dear, good boy, and give it to Mr. Wilmingham directly."

"Oh, deuce take the letter. I wish I'd pitched it into the fire at once. I can't give it *now*. What shall I say for not having told him before?"

"George," Rosy said with deliberation, but with a pale check and a trembling hand, "it *must* be done!"

"*Must!* who says 'must?"

"I do."

"And if I answered 'won't?"

"Then we should part."

In violent agitation he rose, and took two or three turns in the room, murmuring. Then he came back to the fire, and stood leaning on the mantlepiece. Rosy could not see his face distinctly, but she noticed the convulsive clutch of his hands.

She softened her voice a little, but maintained its firmness.

"Will you do it, George?"

"Yes, I'll do it. But if you ever drive me into such a corner again—

Without finishing the speech, he dashed out of the room, and Rosy saw him no more in private for the rest of the day.

Nor did she desire to do so. Her confidence in him had received a shock it was impossible speedily to recover from, and while under the immediate impression of it she felt she could not treat him as she was wont to do.

In spite of herself Stephen's words rose in her mind, "That man will never love you as I love you; it is not in him. He is not worthy of you."

And even were that the worst, but it was not; and Rosy shrank under the bitterest of all humiliations, that of the sense of shame in the man she loved.

Some days elapsed, and the lovers were still on a footing of coldness and half-avoidance—on Mr. Wilbraham's part more than half. Was he, then, sullen and resentful, in addition to his other shortcomings? Day by day, hour by hour, Rosy's bitterness of heart strengthened. But still, to keep it from her father, she outwardly gave no sign.

But the climax of matters was yet to come.

A week passed by. Mr. Wilmingham was gone, and the lovers were, as far as appearances went, nearly restored to their usual footing, when one morning Sir John came to his daughter with an open letter in his hand.

"Very odd and very annoying this, Rosy," he said. "Wilmingham writes to me that a letter of importance, addressed to him here, has never reached him. He has made every inquiry and has actually traced it to this house; but there the clue stops. I have questioned the servants, but every one denies all knowledge of the letter. And yet, you know, it must be one of them. What's to be done?"

Rosy sat with her back to the light, so that her father did not see the changes that came over her face.

"What day ought the letter to have reached Mr. Wilmingham?" she asked. She would hope while it was possible to do so.

"On the 23d—yesterday week."

There was a moment's pause. Then Rosy got up from her chair, and stood beside her father.

"Papa, I know what became of the letter. Ask me nothing I *beseech* you, only be assured there is no fault of mine in the matter. I will write to Mr. Wilmingham and explain all. Leave me his letter. Dearest papa, you will trust me? Perhaps some day you may know everything; but ask me nothing now."

Her father consented and left her. The instant she was left alone she sat down at her desk and wrote as follows:

"DEAR MR. WILMINGHAM,—An accident has just brought to my knowledge the fate of your missing letter. At this moment I cannot tell you whether it has been destroyed or concealed; but as soon as I can ascertain the fact you shall know it.

"I can tell you no more now; and I appeal to you, as a gentleman, to ask me no farther questions, and to believe that I am blameless in this matter. Yours sincerely,

R. MAURICE."

She folded but did not seal the letter, and rang the bell.

"Tell Mr. Wilbraham I want to speak to him." He sauntered up listlessly.

"Well, what's up now, Rosy; you want to speak to me?"

"Read these letters," she said, putting Mr. Wilmingham's and her own into his hands.

He glanced at the signature of the first, and became livid.

"What have you done with that letter?" Rosy asked, her voice still unfaltering.

"Burnt it."

"What are you waiting here for?" she said, after a moment's pause.

"Rosy, hear me!"

"I have nothing to hear from a coward and a liar. Go!"

He passed through the door, and they never met again.

Twelve months after Rosy and Stephen had parted, she wrote to him.

DEAREST STEPHEN,—A year ago I made a dreadful mistake. You were then the chief sufferer, my poor dear Stephen; but since then I have suffered horribly—yes! more than you could have done. There is no man living but yourself to whom I could write as I am now writing—to whom, as I have treated you, I could say, Return to me; let the past be obliterated, and take me as the Rosy you loved a year ago. But I know you, and I know that twelve months of absence have not changed your heart, or made it forget or cease to love me, unworthy as I may have been of such a heart's love.

So I come, Stephen dearest, in deep humility, to lay my fate in your hands, and to say that I am yours, if you will consent to take me.

R. M."

Readers, I give you each three guesses as to the purport of Stephen's answer.

☞ Though death is before the old man's face, he may be as near the young man's back.

☞ The life which has self and selfish purposes for its object must always be a miserable failure.

The War for the Union.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

The Report of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Conduct of the War has been published. The report treats principally of the operations of the Army of the Potomac in the campaign of 1861-62, and covers seventy-five pamphlet pages. The evidence elicited by the Committee, which makes nearly seven thousand pages will be printed immediately. The allegations of the report reflect principally upon the management of the war in Virginia by Gen. McClellan. We are unable to give them at length, but they may be summed up briefly as follows:

First—His refusal to move on Manassas when the roads were good, the army fully organized, and positive information had been received that Gen. Beauregard's army was much smaller than ours and without fortifications.

Second—Unreasonable delay before Yorktown and withholding reinforcements in some of the battles on the Peninsula.

Third—That he could have crossed the Chickahominy in May, the engineers being ready at that time.

Fourth—That he knew positively, several days previous, that the enemy had massed their troops upon his right, of which he took no notice, and which resulted in the seven days' battle.

Fifth—That he abandoned at that moment the full plan of battle to enter Richmond on the left.

Sixth—That there was no formidable resistance to entering Richmond after the battle of Fair Oaks.

Seventh—That he delayed the battle of Antietam for one day, thus allowing the enemy to escape; and this while he had a whole army corps on hand that had not fired a gun. Yet he put in as a plea for the delay that he needed reinforcements.

In concluding their Report the Committee say that had the success of the Army of the Potomac during this period corresponded with the success of our arms in other parts of the country, there is reason to believe that the termination of the campaign of 1862 would have seen the rebellion well-nigh, if not entirely, overthrown.

Had Norfolk been captured during the winter of 1861-62, and the Merrimac taken possession of or destroyed, the way to Richmond, by means of the James River, would have been open, and the fatal delays of the Peninsula avoided; or had the enemy, when at Manassas, some time during the autum of 1861 or winter of 1861-62, been compelled to come out from his entrenchments and give us battle, as he might have been by threatening or actually interrupting his communications between Richmond and Manassas, on which he wholly depended for supplies—a line so long and difficult to maintain that we subsequently did not deem it practicable for us—we could have met him with an army greater than it was ever proposed to take against Richmond, and either have opened the way to the rebel capital or made it unnecessary to go there.

In military movements delay is generally bad—indecision is almost always fatal. In our movements we seem to have too often forgotton that momentum is made up of weight *and velocity*; that the force of the blow may depend as much upon the celerity of the movement as upon the weight of the body moved. The world's history shows, that the successful general has met his enemy the day before he was expected—not the week or month after. Some of our points of attack have been so clearly indicated to the enemy beforehand, and our movements made with so much delay and hesitation that he has been able not only to fortify his positions and concentrate his forces, but even to call into the field new armies to meet us. At such points we have failed.

It is particularly worthy of note that, in the reverses which followed the failure of the Peninsula campaign, at the time when the army of the rebels had reached its greatest strength and its highest state of enthusiasm, they did not permanently regain any territory or recapture and hold any of the important or controlling points before held by us on rebel soil. Their marches upon Washington, Maryland, and Louisville, were little more than raids, from which they were obliged to retire before our opposing forces. This fact clearly shows that while it is impossible for us to constantly retain military possession of all the vast rebel territory over which we may be called upon to pass in our operations against their armies, still the territory once held or occupied by us cannot be permanently regained by them—a sure indication of our ultimate success.

We have carried on, shall carry on and conclude this war, without touching one dollar of the accumulated capital of the country. We are already astonished at the revenue now being raised from the taxation of our daily productions, and yet we do not begin to realize the amount to be yielded by the system already adopted, or the extent to which that system may be enlarged, without imposing any grievous burdens upon the people—any burden to which they will not cheerfully submit to accomplish the object intended.

No government can long carry on a war which must be sustained by the accumulated capital of the country, and there is scarcely a limit to the time war may be prosecuted by a government whose credit is sustained by the revenues derived from the accumulating wealth of the country.

Every dollar the rebels have expended or can expend in this rebellion has been, and must continue to be, drawn from their accumulated capital. Their intercourse with foreign nations has been almost wholly suspended, all their industrial interests have been paralyzed, and there is no source from which they can derive revenue or means for the maintenance of the war, except by depriving the people of their property, day after day, and year after year, so long as the war shall continue, thus reducing them to poverty and want. This is a truth which the people in the revolted States are already beginning to realize. They had been made to believe an that export duty on cotton, which the world would be obliged to pay, would yield them the richest revenue ever realized by any government, and that if the Federal government should attempt interference with its exportation, they could command the armies and navies of Europe to fight their battles for them. How bitter must be their disappointment, as they apply with their own hands the torch which consigns it to ashes, and then are compelled to supply to their leaders, from their other property the means to sustain the rebellion! Their currency has almost ceased to be regarded, even by themselves, as the representative of value. Conscription has exhausted their people, and the wealth which long years of uninterrupted prosperity, under the best government the world ever saw, had placed in their hands, has already been expended, and they are now struggling on with the vain hope that dissensions among ourselves or foreign intervention may save them from that ruin which they see clearly impending over them. Every day must show them more and more clearly that on neither of these sources can they rely for help. The utter scorn and contempt with which every man in the loyal States who proposes any adjustment of this contest except the absolute, unqualified and unconditional subjugation of every rebel in the land to the Constitution and the laws, is held by every officer and soldier in our army, and every loyal man in the country, must banish from their minds the last ray of hope from that source. The reaction which followed the recent slight manifestations of willingness on the part of a few secession sympathizers to offer terms of compromise, must convince them that they have no allies in the loyal States on whom they can rely; and the present condition of affairs in Europe must forever crush that false and delusive hope which they have heretofore entertained, that the intervention of European powers might enable them to accomplish what they know full well they can never attain unaided.

We now see clearly what we have to do. We must obtain uninterrupted control of the Mississippi. We must reach those great railroad arteries—the one bordering the Atlantic seaboard, the other stretching through the Virginia and Tennessee valleys to the west and south. We must, as soon as possible, take the few fortified seaports remaining in possession of the rebels. And then we shall have virtually disarmed the rebellion, cut it off from all external sources of food and arms, and have surrounded it by forces which can press upon it from any quarter, at the same time severing into isolated portions the rebel territory and destroying their means of intercommunication, by which alone they have hitherto been enabled to meet us in force wherever we have presented ourselves, and by which alone they have been able to feed and supply their armies.

By possessing ourselves of, and keeping open, the great natural highways alone, (and a possession of a navy by us should have early suggested this,) we sever parts of their territories mutually dependent, and, while crippling them enable ourselves to speedily concentrate our forces at any point where it may be advisable to strike.

These decisive measures we are actually executing or preparing to execute. The successes and conquests we have already described have carried us through the preliminary stages, and the blows we now strike—each one of them that succeeds—will reach the very vitals of the rebellion. Let any one cast his eye upon the map and these truths will be apparent.

It may be in the future, as in the past, we shall meet with reverses; they are the inevitable incidents of a great war extending over so vast a territory, and requiring great armies at so widely separated points. We have already seen that it is not our true policy to attempt an actual military occupation of the rebel territory, except at a few and important controlling points. We must destroy their armies, and to do this we must concentrate, no scatter our forces. It is better to operate successfully against one stronghold or one army than to attempt three and fail. The indications now clearly are that, both in the east and the west, the campaign of 1863 will give us brilliant achievements—decisive victories. Our generals now in the field have the full confidence of the soldiers and the people, and the armies will go forth, knowing that their ranks are to be made full; that every day that passes will add to, not diminish, their strength or numbers. Never before did the world see such an army in the field; never before did generals lead such men to battle. Each man goes forth feeling, not only that he has a soldier's reputation to maintain, but also that he has a country to defend in which his interest is as great as that of the highest officer in the land. Such an army, with its energy, power, intelligence, and will, properly directed, must be invincible. The past has already demonstrated that the true American soldier can be relied upon to dare, do, and endure all that human power can attempt, accomplish, or sustain.

Let no men be placed or kept in command of such men who have not the ability to command, and the will to do so; thus the errors and mistakes of the past will be avoided in the future, the fond hopes and anticipations of a true and loyal people realized, the government vindicated, and rebellion speedily and forever crushed.

We know that this contest has cost us and will cost us treasures and blood—the best blood ever shed by any people in maintenance of their government and in defence of free institutions—the blood of the flower of our land. Let us not make their lives a vain offering, by for a moment entertaining the idea of a partition of our territory, which would forever involve us in anarchy and border wars, or by any base compromise with rebels.

We owe it to the noble dead who have shed their blood in founding and defending this government; we owe it to ourselves; we owe it to the countless millions who are to come after us, to maintain this government and the institutions we have inherited from our fathers—the richest legacy ever bequeathed by one generation to another—and to transmit them to our posterity, if not improved, certainly unimpaired.

In conclusion, your committee will only say, that all the men who hold high positions in the army and navy, and have rendered valuable services to the country, with whom they have held intercourse, unite in the opinion that fighting, and *only* fighting, can end this rebellion; that every traitor in the land must and shall be made to acknowledge and yield absolute, unqualified, and unconditional obedience to the Constitution and laws.

And your committee believe this to be the sentiment, not only of the army and navy, but of every man in the country—traitors and cowards alone excepted.

The peculiar taint or infection which we call Scrofula lurks in the constitutions of multitudes of men. It either produces or is produced by an enfeebled state of the blood, wherein that fluid becomes incompetent to sustain the vital forces in their vigorous action, and leaves the system to fall into disorder and decay. The scrofulous contamination may be variously caused by mercurial disease, low living, disordered digestion from unhealthy food, impure air, filth and filthy habits, the depressing vices, and above all, by the venereal infection. Whatever be its origin, it is hereditary in the constitution, descending "from parents to children unto the third and fourth generation;" indeed, it seems to be the rod of Him who says, "I will visit the iniquities of the fathers upon their children." The disease it originates takes various names, according to the organs it attacks. In the lungs, Scrofula produces tubercles, and finally Consumption; in the glands, swellings which suppurate and become ulcerous sores; in the stomach and bowels, derangements which produce indigestion, dyspepsia, and liver complaints; on the skin, eruptive and cutaneous affections. These, all have the same origin, require the same remedy, viz, purification and invigoration of the blood. Purify the blood, and these dangerous distempers leave you. With feeble, foul or corrupted blood, you cannot have health; with that "life of the flesh" healthy, you cannot have scrofulous disease.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

is compounded from the most effectual antidotes that medical science has discovered for this afflicting distemper, and for the cure of the disorders it entails. That is far superior to any other remedy yet devised, is known by all who have given it a trial. That it does combine virtues truly extraordinary in their effect upon this class of complaints, is indisputable proven by the great multitude of publicly known and remarkable cures it has made of the following diseases;—*KING'S EVIL, OR GLANDULAR SWELLINGS, TUMORS, ERUPTIONS, PIMPLES, PUSTULES AND BLOTCHES, ERYSIPELAS, ROSE OR ST. ANTHONY'S FIRE, SALT RHEUM, SCALD HEAD, COUGHS FROM TUBERCULOUS DEPOSITS IN THE LUNGS, WHITE SWELLINGS, DEBILITY, DROPSY, DYSPEPSIA OR INDIGESTION, SYPHILIS AND SYPHILITIC INFECTIONS, MERCURIAL DISEASES, FEMALE WEAKNESSES*, and, indeed, the whole series of complaints that arise from impurity of the blood. Minute reports of individual cases may be found in AYER'S AMERICAN ALMANAC, which is furnished to the druggists for gratuitous distribution, wherein may be learned the directions for its use, and some of the remarkable cures which it has made when all other remedies had failed to afford relief. Those cases are purposely taken from all sections of the country, in order that every reader may have access to some one who can speak to him of its benefits from personal experience. Ayer's Sarsaparilla purifies the vital energies, and thus leaves its victims far more subject to disease and its fatal results than are healthy constitutions. Hence it tends to shorten, and does greatly shorten the average duration of human life. The most important of these considerations has led us to spend years in perfecting a remedy which is adequate to its cure. This we now offer to the public under the name of AYER'S SARSAPARILLA, although it is composed of ingredients, some of which exceed the best of Sarsaparilla in medicinal power. By this and you may protect yourself from the suffering and danger of these disorders. Purge out the foul corruptions that rot and fester in the blood, purge out the causes of disease, and vigorous health will follow. By purifying the blood, it regulates the vital functions, and thus expels the distempers which lurk within the system or burst out on any part of it.

We know the public have been deceived by many compounds of Sarsaparilla, that promised much and did nothing; but they will neither be deceived nor disappointed in this. Its virtues have been proven by abundant trial, and there remains no question of its surpassing excellence for the cure of the afflicting diseases it is intended to reach. Although under the same name, it is a very different medicine from any other which has been before the people, and is far more effectual than any other which has ever been available to them.

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UDOLPHO WOLFE.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Having been solicited by Physicians, Druggists, Grocers, and private families to add to my business "Pure Bourbon Whiskey," in bottles, the same as I am and have been doing with my "Schiedam Schnapps," to seal it with my seal, and add my certificate to the label, of its undoubted purity, I am happy to say that, after a great deal of difficulty, I have concluded an arrangement with two of the largest and oldest distillers in Kentucky for a regular supply.

The Whiskey will be put up in quart bottles, and packed in cases of one dozen each.

Craving for the following letter a careful and attentive perusal, I remain yours, &c., UDOLPHO WOLFE.

NEW YORK, January 30th, 1863.

UDOLPHO WOLFE, Esq., 22 Beaver St., New York.

DEAR SIR:—The want of Pure Liquors for Medicinal purposes has been long felt by the profession, and thousands of lives have been sacrificed by the use of adulterated articles.

We have tested the Bourbon Whiskey which you sent us, and consider it justly entitled to the high reputation you claim for it.

We would recommend you to appoint some of the respectable Apothecaries in different parts of the United States as Agents for the same, when needed for medicinal purposes.

Wishing you success in your new enterprise,

We remain your obedient servants,

Valentine Mott, M. D., No. 3 Granaery Park.
J. M. Carnochan, M. D., Professor of Clinical Surgery, Surgeon-in-Chief to the State Hospital, &c.. No. 14 East Sixteenth Street.
Lewis A. Sayre, M. D., 795 Broadway.
H. P. De Wees, M. D., 791 Broadway.
Joseph Worcester, M. D., 120 Ninth Street.
Nelson Stelle, M. D., 37 Bleecker Street.
John O'Reilly, M. D., 40 Fourth Street.
B. J. Raphael, M. D., Professor of the Principles and Practice of Surgery, New York Medical College, &c., 91 Ninth Street, and others.

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I beg leave to inform the Public I have appointed the following firms, in Boston, Agents for the sale of this Pure Bourbon Whiskey, where samples can always be seen, and will soon be for sale by every Grocer, Druggist, and Apothecary, and Hotel in the United States. UDOLPHO WOLFE,
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